

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Steelers end Patriots' 21-game winning streak**

Back page

Patriots coach Bill Belichick



**AFN coverage of Election Day results**

Page 11



**Rock group tries to grow up**

Page 18

Sum 41

Volume 2, No. 206 © EPSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2004

## **ELECTION2004 Frenzied finish**

- Bush, Kerry storm battleground states in final push
- Last polls before voting suggest a toss-up
- Parties in full swing to ramp up voter turnout

Pages 11, 14-15

### **Send in the reinforcements**

New troops arrive in Iraq as U.S. readies for Fallujah assault

Pages 3, 5



U.S. Marines train Monday in an abandoned primary school outside Fallujah. U.S. forces are preparing for a major assault on Fallujah in an effort to restore control ahead of January elections. The order to launch an assault must come from interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, who warned Sunday that his patience with negotiations was running thin. Meanwhile, the 3,700-member Louisiana-based 256th Enhanced Separate Brigade began arriving at Camp Victory North.

AP

Remember to  
thank your  
Command  
for today's  
copy of Stars  
and Stripes.



Your Stars and Stripes is  
now printed and  
delivered locally from  
Kuwait, Iraq, and Qatar  
giving you up-to-date  
daily news, sports and  
entertainment.

Without the assistance  
of local commands,  
your friends and fellow  
soldiers would be  
isolated without news  
from home.

Contact  
Stars and Stripes  
circulation with  
questions about  
delivery at  
49-6155-601-455  
DSN: 349-8455

To contact a reporter  
in the field, email  
iraq@mail.estripes.osd.mil

STARS AND STRIPES  
Your Hometown Newspaper

## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

### World

**Prime minister's assassination:** A witness testifying Monday in the trial of the alleged assassins of Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic said video surveillance had been switched off at Serbia's government headquarters at the time of the killing.

Supporting suspicions that security had been lax at the building, security officer Zoran Petrovic said "the cameras were not working due to some renovation works" at the time of the shooting.

Djindjic, who spearheaded the 2000 uprising against former President Slobodan Milosevic, was Serbia's first democratic prime minister since World War II. He was shot just outside the building on March 13, 2003, as he headed to his office.

Thirteen paramilitary leaders and crime bosses loyal to Milosevic have been indicted in the case. Their trial, which began in December, has been delayed several times due to bureaucracy and is still in the prosecution stage.

**Nigerian oil strike:** Oil giant Royal Dutch/Shell Group opened court action Monday in Nigeria to block a threatened strike targeting oil in the world's No. 7 crude exporter but lost a first-round bid for an interim injunction quelling the unions.

Launch of the case comes a day after Nigeria's union leaders called the Nov. 16 strike over rising fuel prices here.

Unions promised to target Shell — the top multinational in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country — as an "enemy" of the people for pursuing court action against the strike.

**Madrid bombing suspects:** The Spanish government has ordered most of the suspects jailed over the Madrid terror bombings to be dispersed in prisons around Spain as part of a plan to prevent Islamic radicals from recruiting behind bars, a newspaper said Monday.

El Pais said 14 of those 16 suspects, who are all in prisons in the Madrid area, will be transferred to prisons as far south as Andalusia and to Galicia in Spain's northwest corner.

The measure comes in response to Judge Baltasar Garçon's recent warning that Spanish prisons have become breeding grounds for Islamic terrorists willing to commit suicide attacks.

**Milosevic trial:** Appeals judges at the U.N. war crimes tribunal at the Hague restored Slobodan Milosevic's right to act as his own defense lawyer Monday, but they said he must accept a standby in case he becomes ill.

The written ruling by the five-judge panel essentially reverses a decision by trial judges last month to impose a court-appointed lawyer on the former Yugoslav president, saying "when he is physically capable of doing so, Milosevic will take the lead in his case."

But the ruling said an appointed lawyer must remain on standby in case Milosevic's "health problems resurface with sufficient gravity."

**Mass grave exhumation:** Forensics experts in Bosnia-Herzegovina said they resumed exhumations on Monday in the country's second-largest mass grave found since the end of the 1992-95 war.

So far experts have exhumed 415 bodies from a mass grave in northwestern Bosnia, which contains the bodies of Muslims and Croats slain at two wartime concentration camps, said Murat Hurić, an official with the missing persons commission in the Mus-



**Iran's nuclear program:** Iranian students form a human chain around the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization's headquarters in Tehran on Monday to defend Iran's right to possess nuclear technology. The U.N. nuclear chief on Monday urged Iran to suspend uranium enrichment, and called on North Korea to dismantle its own weapons program. The events came a day after Iranian lawmakers unanimously approved the outline of a bill that would force the government to resume uranium enrichment.

lim-Croat part of Bosnia.

Exhumations will continue for at least 10 more days at the grave in Stari Kevljani near the town of Prijedor, 110 miles northwest of Sarajevo. The mass grave is the 51st found in the Prijedor area.

**Anglican church rift:** Widening the growing global Anglican rift over homosexuality, Anglican bishops in Nigeria said Monday they would stop theological training of African clergy in Western institutions.

Bishops also were studying creation of a separate, "African" theology rejecting gay and same-sex marriages, they said. The African Anglican leaders, ending a six-day meeting, stopped short of calling for an outright split in the Anglican church as some had feared.

Africa accounts for about half of the world's 76.5 million Anglicans — and Nigeria's 17.5 million Anglicans are the biggest congregation outside England, where the church has its origins.

### Business

**Yukos oil scandal:** Investment bank J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. said the main production unit of Russia's embattled oil giant Yukos is worth \$16 billion to \$22 billion, a source familiar with the case said Monday. It was the second Western investment bank to value the unit far above a possible starting price in a state-sponsored sale.

Yukos hired J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. to evaluate the company when the Justice Ministry said it would apply a value of \$10.4 billion while selling the Yuganestheguz unit against Yukos' crippling back-tax bills.

That assessment was provided by investment bank Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein, which had noted that it was "overly conservative" and recommended a price for Yuganestheguz of \$14.7 billion to \$17.3 billion.

Later reports that the 1 million barrels per day unit could be sold for about \$4 billion fueled fears of a fire sale of Yukos' assets, sending the company's share price tumbling and contributing to soaring world oil prices.

**Crude-oil prices:** The price of oil vaulted above the \$52-a-barrel mark Monday on news that a strike in Nigeria could affect output in the world's seventh-largest crude exporter, while traders looked for signs of how this week's U.S. presidential election would affect the market.

At mid-afternoon Monday in New York, December crude on the New York Mercantile

Exchange was trading electronically at \$52.31 a barrel — up 35 cents from its Friday closing. Prices jumped Friday after falling two days in a row.

### States

**Scott Peterson trial:** After hearing 174 witnesses for the prosecution and 14 for the defense, jurors in Redwood City, Calif., may be deliberating the fate of Scott Peterson by midweek.

Closing arguments were set to begin Monday, with prosecutors telling jurors why they believe Peterson should be convicted of two counts of murder in the deaths of his pregnant wife, Laci, and the fetus she was carrying.

The prosecution argument was to be followed by the defense and then a prosecution rebuttal. Jurors are expected to begin deliberations as early as Wednesday.

Jury selection in the trial began in March. Opening statements began June 1.

Prosecutors claim Peterson killed his wife or around Christmas Eve 2002, then dumped the weighted body into San Francisco Bay. The remains of Laci Peterson and her fetus were discovered along a rocky shoreline about four months later, a few miles from where Scott Peterson claims to have gone fishing alone the day his wife vanished.

**Priest abuse charges:** A lawyer has compiled a list of 2,600 Roman Catholic priests nationwide who have been accused of sexual misconduct against children and plans to post it online by early next year.

Sylvia Demarest, a Dallas lawyer, and her staff spent 11 years on the list, which a victims' rights advocate says may encourage those who were abused to come forward.

Demarest said the database of alleged "priest perpetrators" and other Catholic officials who have been accused of sexually abusing children was assembled from public sources, such as court filings and media reports. The entries will list names of those accused and the time, place and nature of the alleged misconduct as well as whether a lawsuit or criminal charges resulted.

The database will be posted online at [www.bishopaccountability.org](http://www.bishopaccountability.org).

Stories and photos from wire reports

Milosevic

Peterson

# New troops arrive to reinforce Fallujah strike

## Baghdad province deputy governor killed by gunmen

By JIM FREED

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. forces are gearing up for a major offensive against Fallujah, the strongest bastion of Sunni insurgents. The order to launch what would likely be a bloody assault must come from Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, who warned Sunday that his patience with negotiations was thinning.

American and Iraqi officials hope to curb the insurgency in time for national elections by the end of January.

West of the capital, U.S. troops clashed with Sunni insurgents, and American artillery pounded suspected insurgent positions in Fallujah, witnesses said.

A handful of Iraqis showed up for the first day of voter registration in central Baghdad on Monday. They refused to allow TV cameras to film them for fear of future retaliation.

To help protect the voting, fresh American soldiers arrived in the capital Monday — reinforcements that put the total U.S. military presence in Iraq to around 142,000, the highest level since the summer of 2003.

Also Monday, gunmen opened fire on a car carrying Baghdad province's deputy governor, Hatim Kamil, to work Monday morning, killing Kamil, said Baghdad Governor Ali al-Haidari. Two of Kamil's bodyguards were wounded. Interior Ministry spokesman Col. Adnan Abdul-Rahman said.

A known militant group, the Ansar al-Sunnah Army, claimed responsibility for the attack in southeastern Baghdad.

"This is the fate of whoever is aiding or supporting the crusaders against the Muslims and mujahideen," the group said on its Web site. It was impossible to verify the claim's authenticity.

Insurgents have killed dozens of Iraqi politicians and government workers in recent months in a bid to destabilize the country's reconstruction.

The group also said it was behind the assassination of the de-



U.S. Marines of the 1st Division gather for a morning briefing outside Fallujah on Monday. American forces are preparing for a major assault on Fallujah in an effort to restore control to a swath of Sunni Muslim towns north and west of the capital ahead of crucial national elections due by Jan. 31.

ty governor of Diyala province on Friday in the central Iraqi city of Baquba. Aqil Hamid al-Adili, the assistant to the governor for projects affairs, was killed by unidentified gunmen as he was sitting in a friend's office.

Allawi's speech Sunday seemed aimed at preparing the Iraqi public for an onslaught in Fallujah, Allawi warned of civilian casualties, saying that if he orders an assault, it would be with a "heavy heart."

"But I owe, owe it to the Iraqi people to defend them from the violence and the terrorists and insurgents," he said.

Commanders have estimated that up to 5,000 Islamic militants, Saddam Hussein loyalists and common criminals are holed up in Fallujah.

He did not give a deadline for how long he would give negotia-

tions with Fallujah's city leaders in which he demands the handover of foreign fighters.

In a position that appeared to contrast with Allawi's, the country's interim president said a military assault was the wrong solution, according to an interview published Monday.

President Ghazi al-Yawer, a Sunni Muslim, told the Kuwaiti daily Al-Qabas that dialogue must continue and that insurgents "want nothing but a military solution, and the continuation of bleeding among Iraqis."

Meanwhile, heavy clashes between U.S. forces and insurgents continued Monday in Ramadi, an insurgent stronghold 70 miles west of Baghdad.

A bomb in Ramadi on Sunday killed one Marine and wounded four others, the military said. The blast brought to nine the number

of Marines killed in the area over the weekend. At least 1,121 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an AP count.

In Monday's fighting in Ramadi, one woman was killed and her two children injured, hospital officials said.

Also killed was an Iraqi freelance television cameraman, Diaa Najm, who provided material to Associated Press Television News — believed to be the 24 journalist killed in Iraq this year.

On Monday, the British army's new base south of Baghdad was rocked by the four-straight day as Black Watch troops prepared to begin patrolling their new area of operation, British pool reports said.

Seven rockets landed in the space of an hour yesterday morn-

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Saturday, at least 1,120 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

At least 848 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department as of Friday.

The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is thirteen higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated Friday at 10 a.m. EDT.

The British military has reported 68 deaths, Italy 19, Poland 13, Spain 11, Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 982 U.S. military members have died, according to the AP's count.

That includes at least 739 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers as of Friday.

ing in the perimeter of Camp Dogwood, 30 miles southwest of Baghdad. British forces were brought to central Iraq to relieve U.S. troops expected to take part in a major assault west of Baghdad.

Baghdad's Camp Victory North, the sprawling headquarters of the Army's 1st Cavalry Division, was brimming to capacity with the arrival of the 3,700-member Louisiana-based 256th Enhanced Separate Brigade, a National Guard unit that has been rolling into the Iraqi capital over the past few days.

The 1st Cavalry's 2nd Brigade had been scheduled to return to Fort Hood, Texas, in November, but its departure was delayed by two months, military officials said.

The newly arriving troops leave Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, commander of the 1st Cavalry, in charge of eight Army brigades — or more than 32,000 soldiers.

# American and five others kidnapped from Baghdad office

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — An American, a Norwegian and four Iraqi guards were kidnapped Monday when gunmen stormed their office in Baghdad, sparking a gunfight that killed an attacker and a guard, officials said.

The U.S. Embassy confirmed the kidnapping Monday, but declined in the shootout, which occurred about 5:30 p.m. in the upscale Mansour district of western

Baghdad, but did not identify him. One Iraqi guard and one of the attackers were killed, police said.

Police Lt. Col. Maan Khalaf said the attackers arrived in three cars around 11 a.m. in the traditional sunni area which breaks the day-long Muslim fast during the holy month of Ramadan.

The kidnappers stormed the two-story house, surrounded by an outer wall with iron bars, and forced the victims to leave with them.

"We heard gunfire. I went outside to see what's going on when a man pointed a machine gun at me and said: 'Get in or else. I'll shoot at you,'" said Haidar Karar, who lives in the neighborhood.

From his house he saw "at least 20 attackers, some masked and some not." He said some were wearing traditional Arab robes and all were carrying automatic weapons.

Twelve Americans have been kidnapped or are missing in Iraq.

At least three of them have been killed — all beheaded in abductions claimed by an al-Qaida-linked group led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

In September, militants kidnapped two Americans and a Briton from their home in Mansour, about 500 yards from the office stormed on Monday. All three were later beheaded.

More than 160 foreigners have been abducted this year by mili-

itants with political demands or by criminals seeking ransom. At least 33 captives have been killed.

The U.S. State Department said after authorities found the decapitated body of another hostage, 24-year-old Japanese backpacker Shiori Koda. Al-Zarqawi's al-Qaida in Iraq group said it had kidnapped Koda and demanded a withdrawal of Japanese troops from the country.

Koda's body was found Saturday, wrapped in an American flag and dumped on a Baghdad street.

# Add it up: Army counts containers in Kuwait

Service looks to save money on rented trailers, which carries almost everything GIs need

By STEVE LEWIER  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — The featureless semi-trailer-size cargo containers are so common at camps in Kuwait and Iraq that few troops think about them. But they carry literally everything a soldier needs to fight a war, from food and ammo to clothes and spare parts.

"When you drive around, you see mountains of containers," said Lt. Col. Marco Rosario, operations officer for the 143rd Transportation Command, a Florida-based Army Reserve unit now serving in Kuwait. "Now is the time to clean things up."

In October, Rosario dispatched 14 teams totaling 90 people — 55 soldiers and 35 civilians — across Kuwait to count every container in every camp. Later, they will fan out to cover Qatar and Bahrain and, eventually, Afghanistan and Iraq. The team members open every container, verify the contents, record it and mark it with a gold tag.

It's part of a biennial Army survey of its massive store of cargo containers. The last one, in 2001 (last year's was delayed because of the Iraq war), listed 29,000 large containers on the Army's worldwide inventory.

Since then, though, the service has bought or rented thousands more to haul cargo to the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters. Sandy Gorba, the manager of Army containers worldwide, said she expects this year's inventory to top 100,000.

There are two good reasons to account for every container.

First, there's money at stake.



STEVE LEWIER/Stars and Stripes

**Staff Sgt. Alan Moore, 41, of the Fort Bliss, Texas-based 1836th Transportation Company, affixes a gold tag to a cargo container at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The tag signifies that the semi-trailer-sized container has been counted and inventoried. Moore is a member of one of 14 teams from the 143rd Transportation Command counting all the Army's containers in the Middle East theater.**

The Army leased many of the containers, promising to return them by a certain date. Similar to what happens when a rented DVD is returned late, the Army must pay a late fee of as much as \$20 a day if they are not returned.

It doesn't take long for the bill to add up. Brig. Gen. William

Johnson, commander of the 143rd TRANSCOM, said about 1,000 of the 17,457 containers counted in Kuwait are overdue rentals. Returning them will save the Army about \$6 million a year.

Second, it's important to get goods back to their rightful owners. The Kuwait survey turned up

about three dozen containers lost by Army units that have passed through the theater.

Lt. Col. Michael Verrett, container manager for the Kuwait-based Coalition Forces Land Component Command, said one such container held parts for a multiple rocket-launch system.

Another contained empty ammunition boxes valued at \$250,000.

"We'll call [the unit] and tell them about it. And they'll say 'You found it,'" Rosario said.

Other boxes contain more mundane supplies such as Meals, Ready to Eat or truck parts. They are stored in a big patch of desert sand at Camp Arifjan, the largest camp in Kuwait.

"We can find whatever was in these boxes and get it back into the [supply] system," Johnson said.

By Department of Defense regulation, every container shipped to the Middle East must have an electronic ID tag that is scanned every time it enters or leaves a storage yard.

The tag helps keep track of cargo, but it's not foolproof. Some containers have been destroyed because of insurgent attacks on convoys. Some were simply mislaid in the confusion of the rapid advance on Baghdad during last year's invasion.

"You can have equipment, even personnel, that in the fog of war [gets lost]," Verrett said. "We have a lot of trucks out there ... the battlefield is fluid."

The bin counters hope to change what happened after the Persian Gulf War, when the Army spent a year in the desert sorting and returning some 20,000 leftover containers.

"[This time] we're doing it while the war is still going on," Johnson said. "We didn't wait till the end."

E-mail: Steve Lewier at: [lewier@mail.ustrps.osd.mil](mailto:lewier@mail.ustrps.osd.mil)

# U.S. has spent fraction of Iraq rebuilding funds, report says

By JONATHAN WEISMAN  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — After more than a year of difficulties, the pace of contracting for Iraqi reconstruction projects picked up substantially over the past three months, but U.S. authorities have still spent only a fraction of the rebuilding money allocated by Congress, according to a new report.

The inspector general monitoring Iraq's rebuilding also said in his latest quarterly report released Monday that reconstruction aid promised by international lenders and other countries has only trickled into Iraq. Of the \$13.5 billion pledged at a donors conference last year in Madrid, contributions and firm commitments total \$2.7 billion, the report said.

Inspector General Stuart M. Bowen paints a picture of lawlessness and corruption hampering a reconstruction program that once promised Iraqis a significant boost from their pre-war standards of living.

Allegations have surfaced of large-scale embezzlement, robberies perpetrated by Iraqi police, even payoffs to U.S. military

personnel who aided in theft.

"Iraq is largely a cash-based economy, and daily life there remains volatile and hazardous," Bowen wrote.

Of the \$24.1 billion that Congress has allocated for Iraq's reconstruction over the past two years, \$13.4 billion has now been obligated to rebuilding contracts, the report said. Three months ago, 30.6 percent of the reconstruction funds had been earmarked for specific projects. Now, that total has risen to 40.7 percent, the report said.

But only about \$5.2 billion has been spent. In the quarterly report released three months ago, about \$3 billion had been spent. Congress' high-profile allocation of \$18.4 billion, approved in October 2003, is still largely untapped. About \$1.6 billion of that has been spent, up from \$400 million three months ago, according to the

inspector general's office.

Other reconstruction projects have come out of various smaller accounts or have been financed with Iraqi oil money.

"Demanding and frequently dangerous conditions ... have challenged the pace of reconstruction," Bowen wrote in an opening message for the report.

The inspector general has managed or coordinated 113 criminal investigations, and opened cases on 272 reports of fraud, waste or other problems reported on the agency's hot line.

In one case, Iraqi construction companies were accused of stealing construction equipment from the Iraqi interim government. U.S. military personnel allegedly helped transport the materials and accepted payment for the assistance. Some of the equipment has been recovered, but the case remains under investigation by the

military and the Iraqi government.

In another case, an Iraqi government official was suspected of embezzling \$300,000 of funds allocated to help local governance, and possibly funneling some of that to insurgents. The investigation found that the official had actually spent only \$70,000 on legitimate projects. He returned the other \$430,000.

A U.S. contractor also reported an alleged theft by Iraqi police officers, who threatened one of the company's Iraqi employees. The investigation led to the arrest of five Iraqis — including two police officers — who were charged with robbery.

The inspector general's investigations have been hampered by confusion, since the U.S. occupation government was disbanded June 28, the report said. Since the inspector general's office was established to keep an eye on the Coalition Provisional Authority, it was unclear whether it would continue to exist. The audit staff has declined by 42 percent since then, Bowen said.

Last month, Congress extended the inspector general's mandate until 10 months after 80 percent of Iraqi reconstruction funds are obligated to contracts.

*Inspector General  
Stuart M. Bowen paints a  
picture of lawlessness and  
corruption hampering a  
reconstruction program  
that once promised  
Iraqis a significant boost  
from their pre-war  
standards of living.*



# First task before assault: Identify 'The Muj'

As Marines prepare for Fallujah battle, enemy still elusive

BY EDWARD HARRIS

The Associated Press

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq — Scouring turnip patches and dimly lit homes, U.S. Marines on patrol outside the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah search for guns, mortar rounds and rockets in villages where the Marines believe people smile by day — and launch deadly projectiles by night.

In a fight without front lines against civilian-clothed enemies, Marines in central Iraq can't easily identify enemies called "The Muj" — short for mujahideen, or Muslim holy warriors — who boobytrap roads and fire into U.S. bases from nearby hamlets.

"They're watching us right now. They're everywhere, but you can't tell who they are," says Sgt. Alexander Munoz as he leads a 1st Marine Division patrol through one town. "They wave and salute — then they bomb you."

The Marines have stepped up activities in Iraq's restive Sunni Triangle and are laying plans to attack Fallujah, whose rebel leadership is believed a leading force behind the insurgency as well as the hostage-taking, bombings and beheadings.

An attack, if ordered by Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, would likely be led by Marines now patrolling near Fallujah, seeking to clear weapons caches as well as prevent the kind of rearguard action the U.S. forces faced during an aborted attack on the city in April.

U.S. forces hope to cut down the rebellion and boost security in Iraq ahead of nationwide elections scheduled for January.



U.S. Marines train Monday in an abandoned primary school outside Fallujah, Iraq. In a fight without front lines — American forces are preparing for a major assault on Fallujah in an effort to restore control ahead of January elections — the enemy is not easily identified.

But as the Marines try to calm the area around Fallujah, they say they face a foe who mixes with the local population, threatening unsympathetic civilians into supporting their goals.

And collaborating with the Marines can be deadly.

"The people here are against a wall. They help us and they help the Muj," says Munoz, as the Marines look for roadside bombs.

"They're scared," says the 28-year-old from San Sebastian, Puerto Rico.

Civilians escaping Fallujah — with some

rebels likely among them — are taking refuge in abandoned houses and schools shuttered during the fighting.

A Marine attack on Fallujah in April was called off after widespread Iraqi protest at reports of civilian casualties, but not before insurgents sneaked around and attacked the Marines' rear, touching off a dayslong battle outside the city.

So the Marines are showing their force this time before any upcoming attack on Fallujah, walking through turnip and tomato fields and looking for weapons buried in irrigation ditches as rebel rockets crash in the area.

The Marines are on constant lookout for the roadside bombs, often connected by wires to a mobile phone, which when dialed sets off the blast. Rebel spotters are presumed to be watching.

The bombs also can be mounted on telephone poles or put in trash, and the Marines suspect the townspeople often know where the bombs lay.

"A lot of these people are very respectful, they give you water," says Lance Cpl. Brian Davis, 27, from Kelseyville, Calif. "But you always have to ask yourself who they really are."



An Iraqi soldier serving with the U.S. Marines as a translator kisses a local child Saturday before he joins a foot patrol outside Fallujah, Iraq. At the last military outpost on Fallujah's frontier, a place called the FLT — Fallujah Liaison Team — the military is trying to help solve the day-to-day problems for people in the city.

## A place to win hearts and minds

Troops at U.S. outpost on Fallujah frontier acts as liaison with local Iraqis

BY JACKIE SPINNER

The Washington Post

NEAR FALLUJAH — The road, sticky with mud from an overnight downpour, passed through a narrow alley of sand blast walls and into a heavily guarded U.S. military compound. Inside, a battle-worn Marine staff sergeant pruned the miniature roses that ringed a small grassy courtyard, where a fountain bubbled.

This is the last military outpost on the violent frontier that surrounds insurgent-held Fallujah, a city about 35 miles west of Baghdad that the U.S. Marines last entered six months ago. Since pulling back, the military has approached only to within about a mile of the city limits, to this secure zone. It feels like a small oasis — until a mortar round explodes outside, as it did Saturday morning, sending everyone running for their battle gear and, once it was done, raising their eyebrows in that universal sign of relief: Where.

Still here. In spite of the dangers for both the U.S. military and Iraqi civilians traveling to see them, Fallujah residents come to the compound almost daily to apply for jobs, lobby for building contracts, register damage claims and see the Americans for other reasons. The mayor of Fallujah showed up twice last week with a wish list of reconstruction projects.

"It's our only window into the city," said Lt. Col. Leonard DeFrancisci, a civil affairs officer assigned to Regimental Combat Team 1 of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. "It's our glimpse of what's going on."

The Marines call this place the FLT, or Fallujah Liaison Team, where the military is trying to help solve the day-to-day problems for people in the city even as U.S. and Iraqi forces prepare for a major offensive.

For many of the Fallujah residents who turn up at the Marine outpost, the compound is their first face-to-face encounter with the men and women in camouflage who have been vilified by the insurgents and who often roam the highways in heavily armored vehicles wearing dark, futuristic eye protection that makes them look more alien than human.

"They're not used to Marines," said Cpl. Andrew Carlson, a Marine reservist from the 4th Civil Affairs Group, based in Washington, D.C. "They only thing they hear about us is that we're evil."

Carlson, a bartender in civilian life, stood at the front gate, nicknamed the lemonade stand, when a rocket recently was launched from a truck stop next door, narrowly missing the compound.

"We've got suicide bombers, snipers driving by, mortars," he said. "But we

still have to be smiling. They know this is the place you're supposed to come if you have a problem or you know someone who has disappeared."

A contractor who is building a dining facility at a nearby Iraqi National Guard installation stopped by to see the Seabees, the engineering and construction arm of the U.S. Navy that is administering reconstruction contracts for the Marines.

The contractor complained a competitor had hired away his workers, which could delay his work schedule.

Lt. Cmdr. David Hahn, a naval contracting officer who lives in Guam, listened across a wooden table as the man explained the fix he was in.

"You have just discovered a concept called competition," Hahn told the contractor, who asked not to be identified.

"Maybe in a democratic country, but this is not a democratic country," the contractor replied.

Lance Cpl. Ryan McCaffrey, a Marine reservist of the 4th Civil Affairs Group, said if the outpost did not exist, most Iraqis from the area would only see the Marines at a checkpoint.

"We're supposed to win the hearts and minds here," he said. "We can actually be friendly. One of the best things we did out here was get a guy who was shot medical care. Maybe later he'll be less likely to pick up an RPG and kill us."

# NATO training Iraqi officers at Norway base

BY DOUG MELLGREN  
The Associated Press

OSLO, Norway — The first group of Iraqi officers to begin security training under the auspices of NATO started their work Monday at the alliance's elite training center in western Norway.

The eight-day course is part of an effort by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to train security officers for Iraq, with plans for an eventual military academy near Baghdad.

The 20 officers training at NATO's Joint Warfare Center in the western Norway port city of Stavanger were selected by Iraqi authorities as key leaders, the alliance said in a statement.

"Our NATO facility is well placed to offer our Iraqi guests training that will be extremely relevant to the challenges and opportunities they face in rebuilding their country's security institutions," said the center director, British Army Maj. Gen. James Short.

The center specializes in training for joint operations at the headquarters level. NATO said the first group of Iraqi trainees represented a pilot project for possible follow-up training at the center and in Iraq. The ultimate aim is to help Iraq develop its own training capability, it said.

The Iraqis, who were maintaining a low profile for security rea-

sons, include senior military staff and civilian employees with the country's defense and interior ministries.

The course will stress the functions of an operational headquarters, and includes instruction on crisis management, command and control of forces, and operational planning.

It also covers cooperation between the military and civilian institutions such as the United Nations and the Red Cross.

Alliance military experts are also working on plans for NATO to expand its training mission inside Iraq, which is currently limited to about 70 people in Baghdad. Last week, U.S. Gen. James L. Jones said the Iraqi military academy, which NATO plans to set up outside Baghdad, should be able to train about 1,000 officers a year.

Jones, the alliance's top commander in Iraq, didn't say when it would be set up, but said at least 16 of the 26 NATO members had "indicated willingness to contribute troops inside Iraq" for the training mission.

The next NATO course outside Iraq for the nation's security personnel will be at the NATO School in Germany later this month.

Thousands of Iraqis have received police training in Jordan, part of a program announced by country to train 32,000 police by 2005 at the Jordan International Police Training Center.

## Home sweet home



Members of the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division march in formation Sunday after returning to Pope Air Force Base, N.C., from deployment in Afghanistan. The troops were sent to Afghanistan to provide security during the recent elections there.

# Violence hits Al-Arabiya TV

BY RAWYA RAGEH  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Its name means "the Arab one," but that didn't spare Al-Arabiya television from attack by insurgents who perceive it as pro-Western.

The Saudi-owned satellite station lost five Iraqi employees when a car bomb exploded Saturday at its Baghdad bureau. It was one of several recent operations — militant groups have also kidnapped women and killed Muslims — that are drawing criticism as "an Islamic."

"Such operations are 100 percent wrong," said Adel Zeyada, 27, a Palestinian engineer who's been living in Iraq for 12 years.

"Even since the days of the prophet, Islam has ... always advised against harming women, children and the innocent. Evidently these groups have a different perception of Islam."

In most claims of responsibility for attacks, militants attempt to link Arab and Muslim targets to the U.S.-run coalition. However, many Iraqis and other Arabs believe the motive is to bring political pressure. Some think the militants have lost focus.

The attack on Al-Arabiya in particular raised questions. The pan-Arab network, which is based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is one of the leading sources of news for people in the Arab world.

In a region where freedom of speech is not universally accepted, Al-Arabiya has broadcast statements by militants and has drawn criticism from U.S. officials for alleged anti-American bias.

Soon after the Saturday car bombing, an Islamic militant group claimed responsibility for the attack, calling the network

"the mouthpiece of American occupation in Iraq," Islamist Web sites heralded the attack, some calling the channel "Al-Ibriya" — the Hebrew One — instead of Al-Arabiya. Of the five dead and 14 injured employees, all but one were Muslims. One of the dead was an Iraqi Christian.

Saudi columnist Khaled Al-Maena said some of the actions of militant groups in Iraq "are alien to the very ideology they profess to possess."

Evan F. Kohlmann, a terrorism expert in Washington, called recent attacks "a bizarre escalation of violence."

"They are taking their anger out on anything they can find," Kohlmann said for the insurgents. "I don't know where it's coming from, but it's horrifying when it's unleashed. It's like they are so enraged that they've lost total focus on who's the enemy."

# U.S. troops step in after Afghan army, police gunbattle

BY NOOR KHAN  
The Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's army and police fought a gunbattle in southern Afghanistan on Monday, leaving several casualties and prompting U.S. forces to step in to restore order, police and witnesses said.

The 90-minute battle started after Afghan National Army troops disarmed police at a checkpoint and a bazaar in Qalat, the capital of Zabul province, said deputy police chief, Jalilani Khan.

He said the army had no authority to disarm the police.

The fighting subsided after U.S. forces arrived and took over security.

He said there were some casualties, but he didn't know how many.

A shopkeeper who was reached by telephone from Kandahar said on condition of ano-

## U.S. patrol fired upon; 1 GI dead, 2 wounded

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Militants attacked U.S. troops patrolling in southeastern Afghanistan on Monday, killing one American soldier and injuring two more with gunfire and rockets, a U.S. military spokesman said.

The patrol came under fire Monday afternoon near Orgun, a town in Pakitika province where U.S. troops man a base close to the Pakistani border, spokesman Maj. Mark McCann said.

The two injured soldiers were rushed to a medical facility at another base in neighboring Khost province, where they were in stable condition, McCann said.

nymity that he saw at least three dead bodies.

American helicopters were still circling above the city.

U.S. military spokesman confirmed there had been an incident in Qalat, but gave no details.

Afghan army officials were not immediately available to comment.

Zabul is one of the most insecure provinces in the lawless reaches of southern and eastern Afghanistan, and has also been

scene of heavy fighting in the past year between coalition forces and Taliban rebels.

The United States is helping to train the new national army, which is meant to gradually replace militia security forces usu-

ally loyal to the local commanders.

Afghan army soldiers also opened fire on some provincial militiamen in the area of the Durai bazaar in Kandahar city on Monday morning, killing two of them and injuring one, said Khalid Pashtun, spokesman for the Kandahar government.

He said the circumstances of that clash weren't yet clear and an investigation was underway.

Also, an ammunition depot at a compound used by Afghan army and U.S. special forces in the city exploded late Sunday, wounding three Afghan soldiers, Pashtun said.

It wasn't clear what caused the blast. No U.S. personnel were reported hurt.

Before the fall of the Taliban regime in late 2001, the compound was used by the hardline regime's leader, Mullah Omar.

# U.S. war crimes court to try first detainee cases

By CAROL ROSENBERG

Knight Ridder Newspapers

**GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba** — If America is at war, did it start on Sept. 11, 2001, or when U.S. forces invaded Afghanistan? To it end when U.S. troops toppled the Taliban? Did President Bush have the power to create a whole new military justice system without permission from Congress? Is terrorism a war crime? These are among the questions that lawyers will debate this week and next before the Pentagon's Military Commission, the first exclusively U.S. war crimes court since World War II.

Now whittled down to a panel of three officers from a pool of five officers and an alternate, the U.S. military colonels will hear lawyers' arguments on behalf of David Hicks, 29, of Australia and Salim Hamdan, 34, of Yemen.

They are the first two men facing trial on conspiracy charges as alleged members of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida movement.

Defense lawyers for the two men have filed hundreds of pages of motions that challenge everything from whether the

## Panel of three officers will hear arguments on Australian, Yemeni held at Gitmo facility

court itself is legitimate to whether mere membership in al-Qaida constitutes a war crime.

"This is where the defense is challenging every aspect of the commission," Navy lawyer Lt. Susan McGarvey said on Sunday, speaking for the Pentagon on the trials. "This is the very heart of the legal system — to be able to challenge it."

Prosecutors counter that U.S. history and tradition provides the framework for a new legal system in the 21st century's war on terrorism. And they repeatedly argue in briefs that Bush had the authority to create the war crimes court because, "the United States is engaged in a war against the international terrorist group known as al-Qaida."

In one reply, a Pentagon prosecutor reached back to Civil War-era military justice that set up a tribunal for co-conspirators in the Abraham Lincoln assassination.

"When lawless wretches become so impudent and powerful as to not be controlled and governed by the ordinary tribunals of a country, armies are called out, and the laws of war invoked," said the brief, quoting from a July 1865 opinion issued by Attorney General James Speed.

In it, Speed described military tribunals as suitable for "secret, but active participants, as spies, brigands, bushwhackers, jaw-hawkers, war rebels and assassins."

The defense attorneys, like their prosecution counterparts, are U.S. military lawyers assigned by the Pentagon. Not only do they dispute U.S. allegations that Hicks and Hamdan were members of al-Qaida, but they are using briefs this week to try to dismantle the court itself.

Rather, they argue, if their clients are to face U.S. justice at all, they should be tried using long established, existing U.S. military or civilian law.

Bush administration advocates argue the commissions are necessary to protect classified and other secret information in a time of war.

That has led to extraordinary procedural privileges, including the power to bring hearsay evidence and to shield from the men the identities of their accusers.

The proceedings come at an extraordinary time — straddling the U.S. presidential election, in which the Kerry-Edwards campaign has said the Democrats would likely scrap the war crimes court altogether and use U.S. courts-martial instead.

Meanwhile, commanders here say they are following the orders of their commander in chief, Bush.

"Quite frankly, the commissions are going to proceed, detention and interrogations are going to proceed," said Army Col. David McWilliams, spokesman for the Miami-based Southern Command, which supervises the Guantanamo prison project.

At the time that our leadership, whether current or new, determines there needs to be a change in policy and direction, then we'll make a change in policy and direction."

# Questions remain over failed 2001 Tora Bora siege

Knight Ridder Newspapers

**WASHINGTON** — Osama bin Laden's reappearance on Friday in a videotape has revived the controversy over how the al-Qaida leader and many of his fighters escaped from American troops and their local allies in Afghanistan three years ago.

Sen. John Kerry has suggested several times that the Bush administration failed to kill or capture bin Laden because it turned the job over to Afghan warlords.

"He didn't choose to use American forces to hunt down Osama bin Laden" on the Afghan-Pakistan border at the end of 2001, Kerry said Friday in an interview with

WISN-TV in Milwaukee. "He outsourced the job."

Bush administration officials have said they used a combination of Afghan fighters, American military advisers and U.S. air power to attack al-Qaida and Taliban forces in the remote, mountainous Tora Bora region.

Writing in The New York Times on Oct. 19, retired Army Gen. Tommy Franks,

who led the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, said it isn't clear that bin Laden was in Tora Bora at the time and denied that the United States

"outsourced" military action. "Afghans weren't left to do the job alone," Franks wrote. "Special forces from the United States and several other countries were there, providing tactical leadership and calling in air strikes."



Osama bin Laden



Tommy Franks

Who's right? Knight Ridder reporters Barry Schlechter of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Jonathan S. Landay and photographers Carl Juste and Peter Anderson of The Miami Herald were in Tora Bora during the battle, and photographer David Gilkey of the Detroit Free Press and reporter Drew Brown traveled there a year later, interviewed Afghan fighters, retraced al-Qaida escape routes and talked to Pakistani intelligence officers who were tracking al-Qaida.

Their reporting found that Franks and other top officials ignored warnings from their own and allied military and intelligence officers that the combination of precision bombing, special operations forces and Afghan forces that had driven the Taliban from northern Afghanistan might not work in the heartland of the country's dominant Pashtun tribe.

While more than 1,200 U.S. Marines sat at an abandoned air base in the desert 80 miles away, Franks and other commanders relied on three Afghan warlords and

a small number of American, British and Pakistani special forces to stop al-Qaida and Taliban fighters from escaping across the mountains into Pakistan.

"We did rely heavily on Afghans because they knew Tora Bora," Franks wrote.

Military and intelligence officials had warned Franks and others that the two main Afghan commanders, Hazrat Ali and Haji Zaman, couldn't be trusted, and they proved to be correct. They were slow to move their troops into place and didn't attack until four days after American planes began bombing — leaving time for al-Qaida leaders to escape and leaving behind a rear guard of Arab, Chechen and Uzbek fighters.

Zaman and Ali began trying to negotiate an al-Qaida surrender even before they began their ground attack. Then, on the second day of the attack, Zaman declared a cease-fire. Ali and a third commander, Haji Zahir, who joined the attack at the last minute, resumed fighting after a few hours, and the U.S. bombing never stopped. But Zaman left open an escape route through the Waziri Tangi valley.

U.S. intelligence analysts estimated that 1,000 to 1,100 al-Qaida fighters, along with some of the group's top leaders, escaped the American dragnet at Tora Bora.

A Pakistani official later told Knight Ridder that intelligence reports suggested that some 4,000 al-Qaida members escaped and that 50 to 80 top leaders paid Zaman or Ali as much as \$40,000 apiece for safe passage out of Tora Bora.

It isn't clear, however, whether bin Laden and his top aide, Ayman al-Zawahiri, were among them, as Kerry has alleged. Bin Laden was last seen heading out of the Afghan city of Jalalabad toward Tora Bora in a convoy on Nov. 15, 2001. U.S. officials thought they'd heard him on a local radio transmission in Tora Bora in December, but they said they might have been mistaken.

Get Into  
**High Gear**  
with Low Rates.

Auto Loan Rates  
as low as  
**3.37%**  
APR

Visit one of our banking centers for more information.

**CommunityBank**

www.DoDCommunityBank.com

Offered by Bank of America Member FDIC

**FLY HOME**  
Sept - Oct Specials

Atlanta.....	\$ 310
New York.....	\$ 310
New Orleans.....	\$ 389
Tampa.....	\$ 349
Los Angeles.....	\$ 360
San Francisco.....	\$ 349
Chicago.....	\$ 310

See our site at [www.flyhome.com](http://www.flyhome.com) for more information. Travel taxes to all destinations.

**Vacations by Air**

**Egypt 1 week EU 1059**  
**Russia 1 week \$ 1290**  
(Including Moscow - 1000 dollars)  
full week sightseeing incl.

**CRUISES EU 649 up**  
up to age 17 free  
with 2 adults

**TOP TOURISTIK**  
Call tollfree 0800FLYHOME  
E-mail [top@flyhome.com](mailto:top@flyhome.com) or visit our website  
[www.top touristik.de](http://www.top touristik.de)

## IN THE WORLD

## Afghan kidnappers willing to talk with U.N.

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM  
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A militant group threatening to kill three foreign hostages said Monday it was ready to negotiate with a United Nations envoy, but warned that any rescue attempt would end in bloodshed and stuck to a demand that the world body withdraw from Afghanistan and that America release Guantanamo prisoners.

A day after the U.N. election workers appeared pleading for freedom in an Iraq-style video, the Taliban splinter group said the three had been split up and are being held at separate locations.

"That's our strategy," Ismael Manzoor, a spokesman for the group, said in a satellite telephone call.

"If the government and coalition forces find one of them, we will kill the other two."

Unidentified armed men abducted Annetta Flanagan of North-

ern Ireland. Filipino diplomat Angelito Nayan and Shipe Hapti of Kosovo from a U.N. vehicle at gunpoint in the capital on Thursday.

Government officials say they have had no contact with the kidnappers.

However, the group's leader, Akbar Agha, said Monday that an Afghan businessman had offered to act as a go-between.

"One Afghan trader has approached us on behalf of the United Nations and we have nominated a two-member team for talks with him," Agha said in neighboring Pakistan in a separate call.

"We have proposed that the meeting should be held in Jalalabad tomorrow."

U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva declined to comment on whether any contact had been made.

Manzoor suggested that the group, called Jaish-ul-Muslimeen, or Army of Muslims, would wait until Friday before killing any

hostages. The group also insists that Britain withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

But Agha said their demands, which also include the pullout of British forces, had to be met by noon on Wednesday.

"They have until 12 o'clock on Wednesday to fulfill our demands. We want the United Nations to stop interfering in Afghanistan," Agha said.

In the video, the hostages are shown sitting hunched together against the bare wall of a room in an undisclosed location. Both women are crying, but all three look unharmed. The three were in Afghanistan to help manage the Oct. 9 presidential election.

Hamid Karzai, Afghanistan's interim leader, released a statement saying he spoke with British Prime Minister Tony Blair on Sunday and that they "strongly condemned the hostage situation."

"This war is against the Afghan nation and we know who will win," Karzai said.



Hostages Annetta Flanagan of Northern Ireland, left, Filipino diplomat Angelito Nayan, center, and Shipe Hapti of Kosovo, right, are seen in this video released by their militant captors on Sunday.

The United Nations expressed relief that the hostages appeared unharmed and appealed for their immediate release. It has said there are no plans to pull staff out of the country, though its foreign

workers have been ordered to avoid shops and restaurants and keep a 9 p.m. curfew.

Associated Press writers Amir Shah in Kabul and Noor Khan in Kandahar, and Paul Haver in Islamabad, Pakistan contributed to this report.

## Bombing in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Israel — A 16-year-old Palestinian blew himself up in a crowded outdoor market in central Tel Aviv on Monday, killing three Israelis and wounding 32 in the first such attack since Yasser Arafat left last week for medical treatment in France.

Arafat's absence has raised concern about instability among the Palestinians. Monday's blast signaled that Palestinian militants are seeking to set the pace, not Arafat's aides, who have been trying to convey normalcy.

From his sickbed in a military hospital near Paris, Arafat condemned the bombing and "appealed to all Palestinian factions to commit to avoid harming all Israeli civilians, and he appealed to Sharon to take similar initiatives to avoid harming Palestinian civilians," Arafat's spokesman Nabil Abu Rdenah said.

## 7 killed in China riot

LANGCHENGANG, China — Violent clashes in a village in central China killed seven people and injured 42, the government said Monday, after police imposed martial law on the area after the fighting between hundreds of rioters that pitted Muslim Chinese against non-Muslim Xinhua.

The unrest began Wednesday after a traffic accident and lasted through Sunday, the government said in its first official report on the violence. Everything "is now under control," it said in the statement, run on state news agency Xinhua.

Martial law has been imposed on the area in Zhongmu County near the city of Zhengzhou in Henan province, and thousands of police have been sent in to restore order. Eighteen people have been arrested, Xinhua said.

From The Associated Press

## Close presidential vote in Ukraine forces runoff

BY JIM HEINTZ  
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and his reformist challenger in Ukraine's presidential election were less than a percentage point apart with nearly all the votes counted, forcing a runoff, the Central Election Commission said Monday.

With 94.4 percent of the precincts counted, Yanukovich had 40.12 percent and challenger Viktor Yushchenko had 39.15 percent, the commission said.

The commission described the tally as unofficial preliminary results and did not say when a total vote count would be announced.

To win in the first round, a candidate would have needed more than 50 percent of the vote. A runoff will be held Nov. 21.

Going into a runoff will expand tension that already existed

Ukraine for weeks ahead of the vote. Yushchenko's supporters have alleged widespread official intimidation and interference and his opponents claimed he was aiming to foment civil unrest to try to overthrow the authorities.



Yanukovich

Both sides alleged voting-day electoral violations and Yushchenko's allies announced they intended to file more than 70 complaints to the Central Election Commission.

A 600-strong group of foreign monitors representing European organizations said the vote did not meet democratic standards.

In its preliminary report, the group, which includes the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, cited state media bias in favor of Yanukovich and state interference, including obstruction of opposition activities.

"Ukraine now has three weeks to show that it is willing to organize democratic elections in accordance with its commitments," said Council of Europe observer Doros Christodoulides.

Yanukovich has the backing of incumbent President Leonid Kuchma, who has clamped down on opposition.

In all, 24 candidates were on the ballot. Turnout was around 75 percent, the Central Election Commission said.

Mykola Tomenko, a Yushchenko ally, said the opposition would "protect its rights" if Yanukovich won a fraudulent vote and announced possible "rallies, strikes

and demonstrations to protect people's rights."

At least 5,000 Yushchenko supporters in downtown Lviv in Ukraine's west protested alleged election fraud, chanting "Enough with thieves" and "Power to clean hands."

Some two dozen students erected barricades in front of Lviv's National University, but no police were present and no violence was reported.

"If we have to, we will walk to Kiev to fight for our votes," said Petro Olyshyn, a lawmaker who heads Yushchenko's regional campaign.



Yushchenko

## U.S. embassies issue terror warning in Baltic region

BY MATTI HUHTANEN  
The Associated Press

HELSINKI, Finland — In a rare warning to Americans living or traveling in the Nordic and Baltic region, United States embassies in Finland and Latvia said they received "threat information" and warned Americans there to be cautious.

The U.S. State Department urged Americans in Nordic and Baltic countries "to be vigilant as to the surroundings, especially in centers of ground-based mass transit, and to report any unusual or suspicious persons, incidents or circumstances to the nearest police authorities," the embassy's Web site in Helsinki said.

The Finnish Security Police said security will be stepped up at the U.S. Embassy in Helsinki, but that Nordic citizens had nothing to worry about.

"The United States has a lower threshold when it comes to warning its citizens, but we have no concrete information that would warrant such a warning," said Paavo Selin, head of Finland's counterterrorism unit. "Because the U.S. elections are so close, the [warning] could be tied to that."

U.S. Embassies in Denmark, Norway and Sweden did not give similar warnings.

"The information is as specific

as we can make it at this time. If we had more specific information for American citizens, we would of course release it," said Victoria Middleton, an embassy spokeswoman in Helsinki.

The State Department message in Helsinki coincided with an announcement Saturday by Latvia's security service that it had received intelligence reports from Norway, Estonia and the United States of a possible terrorist strike against the small Baltic country.

The U.S. Embassy urged American citizens "to avoid crowded public areas and transportation hubs on or about November 1, 2004."

There were no visible signs of increased security at the main train station in the Latvian capital of Riga or at shopping centers Monday.

Latvia, along with neighboring Estonia and Lithuania, have been staunch supporters of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and have a combined total of more than 200 soldiers serving there.

Finland, Norway and Sweden did not support the invasion. Earlier this year, 150 Norwegian soldiers returned from Iraq. Denmark has 501 soldiers in southern Iraq, near Basra.

Associated Press reporters in Latvia, Estonia, Norway, Denmark and Sweden contributed to this report.



# Britain debates gambling

## Proposed legislation seeks to expand casino industry

By Ed Johnson  
The Associated Press

LONDON — The government on Monday defended its plans to expand Britain's casino industry, as lawmakers prepared to vote on legislation overhauling the country's outdated gaming laws.

Ministers insist its proposals will regulate gambling and make it more difficult for children to use slot machines. But opponents fear the new law, which would allow giant Las Vegas-style casino complexes across Britain, will lead to an explosion in problem gambling.

The two main opposition parties, and a clutch of Prime Minister Tony Blair's own lawmakers, have pledged to vote against the legislation when it is debated in the House of Commons Monday.

Blair's government has a large majority, however, and the legislation is expected to pass its first major Parliamentary hurdle Monday, before being passed to a committee of lawmakers for further scrutiny.

Culture Secretary Tessa Jowell said Monday the Gambling Bill "put in place a very tough regulatory regime" and insisted new casinos would need approval from local and regional authorities and a new supervisory body, the Gambling Commission.

"The position in government is to recognize that adults are free within the law to spend their money as they wish to and spend their leisure time as they wish to," she told GMTV television.

Under Britain's 1968 Gaming Act, casinos operate as private members' clubs, and gamblers must apply for membership 24 hours before they can enter. Rules banning live entertainment and alcohol

served at gaming tables have been lifted recently, but the clubs are still restricted to eight gaming machines, with a 50 penny (90 cents, 72 euro cents) maximum stake and jackpots limited to 2,000 pounds (about \$3,600). The legislation scraps the 24-hour rule and lets casinos larger than 53,820 square feet install up to 1,250 so-called category A machines, which have unlimited stakes and jackpots.

Major gaming interests, including Caesars Entertainment Inc. and MGM Mirage, have eagerly awaited moves to overhaul Britain's gambling laws and hope to get their slice of the next big market.

The British Amusement Catering Trade Association, the largest gaming industry body in Britain, fears that deregulation will lead to an explosion of gambling addiction in Britain.

BACTA chief executive Keith Smith said there were currently some 350,000 "problem gamblers" in Britain. According to an economic and social impact study, which BACTA sponsored in February 2004, that figure could rise to more than 700,000 by 2010 if the new law is adopted.

The government has rejected such fears and said it would monitor the impact of the new casinos.

There are currently some 120 casinos in Britain, and the government says it expects between 20 and 40 new complexes to be built, if the legislation is approved by Parliament. Opponents have called on the government to cap the number of new casinos, rather than leave it up to market forces.

Government officials hope the Gambling Bill will be approved by Parliament by the middle of next year.

# Swiss dominate Cheese Olympics

The Associated Press

APPENZEL, Switzerland — It's official — Swiss cheese is the best in the world.

Cheeses from Alpine Switzerland won 37 of 60 medals available at the third annual Mountain Cheese Olympics, including 13 gold medals, the organizers said.

More than 400 mountain cheeses from around the world competed in the four-day event, held in the small cheese-producing town of Appenzel in eastern Switzerland.

The organization that arranged the event, Caseus Montanus — which means "mountain cheese" in Latin — was founded in 2002 by representatives from France, Italy and Switzerland. The group aims to promote the economies of mountain regions.

"The mountain population perceives increasing globalization as a threat to its existence," Caseus Montanus said on its Web site.

"The different foodstuffs, produced under difficult conditions, can only reach their full market

potential if all those concerned work together."

The group claimed that the annual Mountain Cheese Olympics, which started in 2002, "makes a significant contribution to promoting public awareness of these products."

Italy's cheeses came in second in the rankings, with eight medals, followed by France with seven. Austrian cheeses won four medals, and Japan, Mexico, Portugal and Spain each won one medal.

# Mexican college sweetens up Day of the Dead

The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — The National Autonomous University of Mexico claimed sweet victory in establishing a new record for collecting small candy skulls on Sunday.

Students and faculty at the university's medical school in Mexico City collected more than 5,600 of the edible skulls, which are traditional offerings during Day of the Dead festivities in Mexico, the university announced in a written statement.

The collection was documented so that an application can be submitted to Guinness World Records, according to National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) Guinness World Records officials could not be reached Sunday for comment. UNAM officials said that Guinness World Records set 3,000 skulls as a minimum for establishing a record.

Mexicans honor the dead on Nov. 1, when the souls of dead children are believed to arrive, and on Nov. 2, when adults are believed to return. As a welcome, small skulls made of sugar are often left at tombstones that also are surrounded by candles, orange marigolds and favorite foods of the deceased.

UNAM Anthropologist Jorge Miranda said he believed the skulls, which were arranged on a terraced slope, represented the largest skull wall in Mexico, where stacked skulls carved from stone decorate prehistoric temples. Real human skulls from religious sacrifice victims were once strung together outside temples throughout Mesoamerica.



A display shows some of the more than 5,600 candy skulls that college students in Mexico offered for Day of the Dead festivities.



A visitor takes pictures of the grave of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's father, wife and other relatives on Friday at the St. Sebastian cemetery in Salzburg, Austria. The remains held in the grave have been exhumed in an attempt to determine whether a skull held at the International Mozarteum Foundation in Salzburg is that of the famous composer.

# DNA to determine if skull is Mozart's

By Susanna Looft  
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — DNA tests soon may solve a century-old mystery — whether a skull kept at a foundation in Salzburg is part of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's remains.

Archaeologists have opened a grave in Salzburg thought to contain the remains of Mozart's father and other relatives. Experts plan to conduct tests soon to compare genetic material with the skull found by the International Mozarteum Foundation and determine if it belonged to the renowned Austrian composer.

Mozart died in 1791 and was buried in a pauper's grave at Vienna's St. Marxer Cemetery. The location of the grave was initially unknown, but its likely location was determined in 1855.

The grave on that spot is adorned by a column and a sad-looking angel.

Legend has it that a gravedigger who knew which body was Mozart's at some point sneaked the skull out of the grave. Through different channels, the skull came to the Mozarteum in Salzburg in 1902, said Dr. Stephan Pauly, the foundation's director.

There it remains, kept in a "dignified manner" out of public view, Pauly said. He declined to describe exactly how the skull, which lacks its lower jaw, is stored.

The institute is unsure just how the gravedigger got to the skull, and how he knew where Mozart's body was.

"There's been several different examinations carried out, but none has offered conclusive evidence as to whether it belonged to Mozart," Pauly said in a telephone interview from Salzburg, 160 miles southwest of Vienna.

The foundation, a private non-

profit organization that works to preserve Mozart's legacy, was founded in 1880 by Salzburg residents. It readily made the skull available for the DNA test and is "following this project with great interest," Pauly said.

The outcome of the testing will be presented early next year, said Burgi Czeitschner, a state television science journalist who initiated the project.

The bodies in the grave were exhumed last week, and consultations will be held this month on the tests, she said. A date for the analysis hasn't been set.

Several skeletons were found in the grave, but because of the burial procedures of the era, it's not certain that the remains in it come from the names listed on the grave stones, Czeitschner said.

"If it's the Mozart grave we exhumed, then we might have found the remains of Mozart's niece, father and grandmother," she said.

"Four archaeologists documented everything — exactly in what positions the skeletons were laid and if something was missing."

The remains were brought to the Mozarteum, where the tests will be carried out. The remains will be reburied.

What happens to the skull if it's found to be a Mozart relic remains an open question, Pauly said.

"But of course, we will handle the skull with dignity," he said.

Austria has designated 2006 as a year of Mozart celebrations to mark the 250th anniversary of the composer's birth. On Monday, officials in Vienna said a house where Mozart composed his "Figaro" would be closed to the public for renovations and would be reopened for the 2006 jubilee.

Mozart lived with his family in the house, now a tourist attraction that draws about 65,000 visitors a year, from 1784 to 1787.

## IN THE STATES

# Rennquist's health delays return to bench

BY GINA HOLLAND

The Associated Press

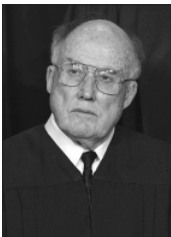
WASHINGTON — Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist disclosed Monday that he's undergoing radiation and chemotherapy for thyroid cancer and said he is delaying his expected return to the Supreme Court, a sign he may have a more serious form of the illness.

Rehnquist had planned to join fellow justices when they were back on the bench after a two-week break. But instead he issued a statement saying "at the suggestion of my doctors, (I) am continuing to recuperate at home."

Rehnquist was released from a Maryland hospital last Friday after undergoing surgery to have the tumor inserted in his throat to help his breathing.

The court has released no details about his weeklong stay at Bethesda Naval Medical Center, except to say that he had a tracheotomy and the type of thyroid cancer and its severity have not been disclosed.

Rehnquist, 80, revealed the cancer diagnosis a week ago, prompt-



William H. Rehnquist

ing speculation about a court vacancy for the first time in more than a decade. The winner of Tuesday's presidential election is expected to name one or more justices to a court that is deeply divided on issues like abortion, affirmative action and the death penalty.

Dr. Ann M. Gillenwater of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston said that the combination of che-

motherapy and radiation is the normal treatment for anaplastic thyroid cancer, a more serious type.

Rehnquist, a conservative who has been on the court since 1972 and chief justice since 1986, has had other health problems including chronic back pain and a torn leg tendon that required surgery.

In the statement, Rehnquist said he was receiving outpatient radiation and chemotherapy. Cancer of the thyroid, a gland in the neck that produces hormones to help regulate the body's use of energy, is generally treatable but can be more aggressive in older people.

"According to my doctors, my plan to return to the office today was too optimistic," he said. "While at home, I am working on court matters, including opinions for cases already argued. I am, and will, continue to be in close contact with my colleagues, my law clerks, and members of the Supreme Court staff."

In his absence Monday, Justice John Paul Stevens, 84, presided over the court. He said Rehnquist could still vote in cases being argued this week, after reviewing transcripts and briefs.

## Court lets Va. neglect ruling stand

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court let stand Monday the conviction of a Virginia man in the death of his 21-month-old daughter in a sweltering van.

The court, without comment, denied the appeal of Kevin C. Kelly in the death of Frances Kelly, who was found dead in May 2002 after she was left in the van for seven hours.

In his appeal, Kelly said he could not be held criminally negligent because he had instructed his older children to take their younger siblings out of the van. Kelly argued he never checked on her because he assumed she was sleeping in the house.

But the Virginia Court of Appeals disagreed, stating that there was enough evidence at trial to show Kelly should have done more to look after Frances.

In other business Monday: ■ Assisted suicide advocate Jack Kevorkian lost an appeal in his bid to win freedom after five years in prison.

Justices, without comment, turned back an appeal in which Kevorkian claimed he had an ineffective attorney when he was convicted of second-degree murder in the 1998 poisoning of Thomas Yuk.

■ The court will decide whether local governments can be sued for failing to enforce restraining orders, using the case of a Colorado mother whose three daughters were killed by their father.

Justices will decide if the mother can pursue a \$30 million lawsuit against the city, on grounds that her constitutional due process rights were violated because the city did not enforce the restraining order.

■ The court declined to hear appeals from a drug manufacturer that sought to limit evidence that fen-phen users want to present in their lawsuits claiming heart valve damage.

In a defeat for drug maker Wyeth, the court let stand a lower ruling that a federal judge went too far when he issued an order restricting the evidence.

## Study: Nonpowder guns injure thousands yearly

BY LINDSEY TANNER

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — A study has found that air rifles, paintball pistols and BB guns injure as many as 21,000 Americans each year, undermining the notion that such weapons are harmless in the hands of young people.

Nonpowder guns kill an average of four Americans yearly, and from 1990 to 2002, there were 39 such deaths — 32 of children younger than 15, according to a report in November's issue of Pediatrics.

The report, published Monday, comes just two weeks after the BB gun death of an 8-year-old South Carolina boy accidentally killed by a 13-year-old friend. The pellet pierced the boy's heart, said Richland County Coroner Gary Watts.

"These are not the kinds of BB guns that I grew up with," Watts

said. Today's BB guns "are extremely high-powered," and some can shoot with a velocity nearly matching a .22 caliber rifle, Watts said.

Nonpowder guns include powerful air rifles introduced in the 1970s and paintball pistols used in war games. They're sometimes described as fake guns and often given to children as gifts, but the report says they can cause internal injuries.

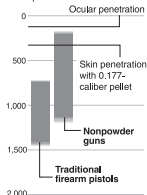
Nationally, an estimated 21,400 injuries related to nonpowder guns were treated in emergency departments in 2000 — most in children aged 5 to 14, according to the report prepared by the American Academy of Pediatrics' Committee on Injury, Violence and Prevention.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show there were 19,163 nonpowder gun injuries last year.

## Nonpowder guns

Nonpowder guns such as pellet-and paintball guns do not use gunpowder, but compressed air to shoot. Nevertheless, the muzzle velocity of some of these guns can match firearms.

**MUZZLE VELOCITY**  
in feet per second



SOURCE: American Academy of Pediatrics AP

Most states have laws or regulations governing nonpowder guns.

## FDA says olive oil could boost heart health

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The monounsaturated fat in olive oil may reduce the chances of suffering coronary heart disease, the Food and Drug Administration said Monday, opening the door to revised food labels.

As long as people don't increase the number of calories they consume daily, the FDA found "limited but not conclusive evidence" suggesting reduced

risk of coronary heart disease when people replace foods high in saturated fat with the monounsaturated fat in olive oil.

According to the American Heart Association, coronary heart disease accounted for 502,189 deaths — or one in five deaths — in 2001, the most current statistic available. Another 13.2 million Americans that year survived the heart attacks, chest pains and other ailments caused by coronary heart disease.

Along with lowering cholesterol, cutting out cigarettes and exercising, the group says Americans can boost heart health by eating foods low in saturated fat, cholesterol and sodium. An American Heart Association spokesman declined comment on the FDA's action until it reviews the health claim.

It's the third time the FDA granted a qualified health claim for conventional food.

## WHO sets date for flu vaccine summit

BY MARILYNN MARCHIONE

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With increasing signs that bird flu is becoming established in Asia and a shortage of flu vaccine in America, health officials from several nations and more than a dozen vaccine companies plan to meet this month for an unprecedented summit to tackle the issue.

Sixteen vaccine companies and health officials from the United States and other large countries already have agreed to attend the summit in Geneva, Switzerland, on Nov. 11, said Klaus Stohr, influenza

chief of the United Nations' health agency, the World Health Organization.

Scientists fear that if the bird flu virus mutates enough to mix with the human influenza virus it could easily pass between humans and trigger a global pandemic.

"We believe that we are closer to the next pandemic than we ever were," Stohr said Sunday in an interview before a speech at an American Society for Microbiology meeting in Washington, D.C.

Stohr said several European countries had been invited to the meeting but declined to name them. Vaccine makers in Russia and Japan were also invited.

The world's total capacity for flu vaccine now is only 300 million doses, and it would take at least six months to develop a new vaccine to fight a pandemic. The WHO wants to get "all issues on the table," monetary and scientific, that prevent getting more vaccine more quickly, he said.

"If we continue as we are now, there will be no vaccine available, let alone antivirals, when the next pandemic starts," Stohr said. "We have a window of opportunity now to prepare ourselves."

Flu kills about 36,000 people in the United States and a million worldwide each year by conservative estimates, Stohr said. But tens of millions die in a pandemic, which occurs every 20 to 30 years, when a flu strain changes so dramatically that people have little immunity from previous flu bouts.

There were three pandemics in the 20th century; all spread worldwide within a year of being detected.

The worst was the Spanish flu in 1918-19, when as many as 50 million people worldwide were thought to have died.

The 1957-58 Asian flu caused about 70,000 deaths in the United States, followed by the 1968-69 Hong Kong flu, which caused about 34,000 U.S. deaths.

**"We have a window of opportunity now to prepare ourselves."**

**Klaus Stohr**  
Influenza chief of the World Health Organization

# Presidential race down to the wire



Democratic candidate Sen. John Kerry greets supporters at a rally Monday at Orlando International Airport in Orlando, Fla.

## Bush, Kerry visit battleground states on final day of campaign

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — President Bush and Democratic challenger John Kerry raced through a frenzied last day of campaigning Monday, pressing hard for support in Ohio, Wisconsin and other narrowly divided states in a presidential election still too close to call.

Squeezing every dwindling hour for campaigning, Bush laid out a six-state, seven-stop tour stretching from early morning into late night, mostly in the Midwest. Kerry was working the heartland for a final time, too, after a morning stop in Florida, scene of the disputed 2000 vote that gave Bush the presidency.

At an airport rally in Ohio, where more than 200,000 jobs have been lost in the past four years, Bush said, "I know the economy of this state has been through a lot, but we are moving in the right direction."

"We have to keep your taxes low and I want you to remind your friends and neighbors that my opponent will raise the taxes on Ohio's families and Ohio's small businesses," Bush asserted.

Kerry, saying he felt "fabulous," headed for Wisconsin, a state Al Gore won in 2000 and the Democrats cannot afford to lose this year.

Both sides had get-out-the-vote armies primed for action, plus lawyers deployed across the country ready to throw any photo finish into court at the first sign of polling-place irregularities.

The long, bruising campaign was finally ending, surely not a moment too soon for the combatants. Kerry occasionally coughed during his speech at a Tampa, Fla., rally Sunday night, which in the past has been an early sign of losing his voice.

Bush stocked up on lozenges and cut down or eliminated caffeine, which constricts the vocal cords, said adviser Karl Rove.

Bush was stumping in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Iowa and New Mexico on his way before a final rally in Dallas.

Kerry was campaigning in Ohio, Wisconsin and Michigan on the campaign's last day before returning home to Massachusetts.



President Bush greets and shakes hands with supporters after speaking at campaign rally at ABX Air Hangar on Monday in Wilmington, Ohio.

## On the issues

How would you seek to prevent another flu-vaccine shortage?

### President Bush



"Long before the current vaccine shortage, my administration took important steps to better protect Americans from the flu. We are spending seven times the amount on flu preparedness as we did when I took office in 2001. We also stockpiled, for the first time, enough influenza antiviral drugs

for 7 million Americans at risk of serious illness from the flu. There are sufficient doses of these drugs in the private sector to treat another 30 million people. We have already begun investing in domestically manufactured next-generation vaccines that will ensure year-round influenza vaccine capacity, and we will increase that investment in the future."

### Sen. John Kerry



"I would prevent another shortage by doing more to encourage the manufacturing of flu vaccines so every American who needs a flu shot can get one. I will do this by first guaranteeing manufacturers that the government will purchase any unused vaccines. We must also encourage more manufacturers to make the vaccine so that unlike this year, one company's

inability to deliver vaccines will not endanger public health. I will establish an Office of Public Health Preparedness within the Food and Drug Administration that will have the authority to contract with manufacturers, accelerate approval for vaccines and other drugs, and waive the requirements without compromising safety and efficacy in the event of a public health crisis."

## Polls: Vote too close to call

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Voter turnout is likely to be higher than in recent presidential elections — especially among young voters — in a very close race, weekend polls suggest.

Those polls suggest the race is very close nationally, with some polls showing President Bush and Democratic Sen. John Kerry even and another showing Bush slightly ahead.

Bush has a slight edge at 48 percent and Kerry at 45 percent in a Pew Research Center poll, while several national polls released this weekend showed the race even.

New polls show Bush and Kerry knotted in key states like Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Minnesota and New Hampshire.

More than eight in 10 regis-

tered voters in the Pew poll, 84 percent, describe this election as especially important, compared with 67 percent in 2000 and 61 percent in 1996.

Pew pollster Andrew Kohut said the poll suggests turnout could be as high or slightly higher than in 1992, when it was more than 55 percent of those eligible to vote — based on his analysis of voter enthusiasm.

Bush had more intense support from his backers than Kerry, though both get the backing of about nine in 10 in their own parties.

The poll suggested the two candidates are running about even among early voters.

The Pew poll of 2,408 registered voters and 1,925 likely voters was taken Oct. 27-Oct. 30 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points.

*More than eight in 10 registered voters in the Pew poll, 84 percent, describe this election as especially important*

## From TVs to computer monitors, several ways to track election results

Stars and Stripes

The American Forces Network will provide live election night coverage on most of its channels starting Tuesday night.

Different channels will show coverage from different networks. AFN News will also carry live post-election coverage from CNN and Fox News.

Times are listed in Central European Time. Viewers in Iraq need to add two hours to the listed times.

Wednesday, AFB Prime Atlantic  
12:30 a.m.: CBS Evening News with Dan Rather

1 to 5 a.m.: CBS election coverage. If coverage runs longer than planned, AFN will continue to carry CBS.

5 a.m.: Regular programming or continued CBS election night coverage

Tuesday-Wednesday, AFB News

10 p.m.: MSNBC news coverage

12:30 a.m.: NBC Nightly News With Tom Brokaw

1 a.m.: NBC election night coverage

5 a.m.: Once NBC coverage ends, AFN will switch to FOX News

1 p.m.: CNN News

6 p.m.: Fox News

In addition to AFN stations, those who receive CNN International will get all-day coverage starting Tuesday, fed directly from CNN in the United States, a spokeswoman said.

### AFN radio coverage

Election coverage from ABC Radio will be broadcast on Interruptible Voice Channel (IVC) from 2 a.m. until at least 7 a.m. NPR's election coverage, available to AFN decoder users, will begin at 2 a.m. and run until the beginning of Morning Edition at 7 a.m.

### Online coverage

For those with access to the Internet, coverage can be found at:

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/Vote2004/>  
[www.cbsnews.com/sections/home/main100.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/sections/home/main100.shtml)  
[www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2004/](http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2004/)  
[www.foxnews.com/youdecide2004/index.html](http://www.foxnews.com/youdecide2004/index.html)  
[www.msnbc.msn.com/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/)  
[www.apr.org/](http://www.apr.org/)





## OPINION

## Touchscreens without paper trail isn't a fix

BY AVI RUBIN

**A**bout 50 million Americans will cast their ballots for president on touch-screen terminals Tuesday.

If my experience as an election judge is any guide, voters will love these machines, which are generally easy to use and which easily accommodate voters who have disabilities or do not speak English.

And if my experience as a computer scientist is any guide, those voters will not realize just how dangerous it is to rely on these machines to conduct a free and fair election with a reliable result.

Voting on a direct recording electronic voting machine, or DRE, is in many ways similar to transferring money from one account to another at an automated teller machine. But there is one critical information difference: no receipt. There will be no physical record produced that could later be used by your local election board to prove how you intended to vote.

After you cast your ballot on a DRE, the only official record of your choices will be the electronic record within the system itself.

You will not be asked to look at a piece of paper that confirms your candidate selections. You will not leave that piece of paper behind for use in case of a recount.

Why is this a problem? Without paper ballots that can be physically examined, the only record possible is a review of the votes recorded by the DRE system itself. And if those votes were recorded incorrectly, no recount will fix the error. The incorrect result could never be detected, much less corrected.

And incorrect results are entirely possible. Largely because of Florida's problems in 2000, there has been a headlong rush nationwide to adopt DRE voting. Touch screens will be used in this election despite numerous studies, by my colleagues and me and by others, showing that the machines from the leading manufacturer, Diebold Election Systems, are poorly designed, with lax security and programming errors.

Nationwide, about one-third of all ballots will be cast electronically.

Technical glitches and malfunctioning machines — the kinds of problems that occur with any computer system — could result in the loss of votes in uncorrectable ways. Worse, these fully electronic machines could be rigged — undetectably, because of the complexity of the software that runs them.

While we can never eliminate the possibility of tampering with elections, the impact of an attack

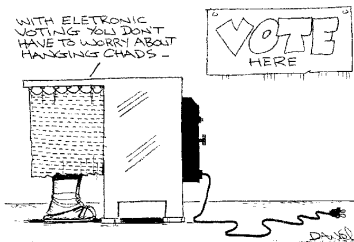
on a DRE system would likely be more serious than the results of tampering with traditional mechanical voting machines or paper-based systems, such as optically scanned ballots. This is because a bug in the software of an electronic voting system, whether accidental or intentional, has the potential to skew results in more than an isolated polling place or two. It could affect the vote totals on many thousands of machines in hundreds of precincts.

Elections, by their nature, are adversarial. In a successful election, the loser should be as convinced as the winner that the outcome is legitimate.

One of our safeguards in the United States is that members of the two principal parties are present to watch each other during every facet of an election. The utility of this security measure is diminished when the votes are not visible and the counting is virtual.

DREs reduce the transparency of the voting process, and traditional checks and balances become ineffective.

Even if, on Wednesday, this election appears to have been a success, there will be no way of knowing for sure whether the will of the people was accomplished.



And even if there is no problem Tuesday, that does not imply that the election was secure — only that no one chose that day to exploit the insecurity. If an apparent success in November leads to greater adoption of fully electronic voting in the future, then subsequent elections will be even more vulnerable.

For voters to have confidence in the election process, it should be as transparent as possible. When technology that is inherently opaque is used in elections, peoples' confidence in the process will be justifiably shaken.

There are ways in which DREs provide an apparent advantage over butterfly ballots and hanging chads. But there are other ways in which these systems, implemented without voter-approved paper ballots that allow meaningful recounts, are potentially much worse.

Our goal should be voting technology that is beyond reproach. That goal may never be fully attainable, but we must do better than this.

Avi Rubin is a professor of computer science at the Johns Hopkins University. This column first appeared in The (Baltimore) Sun.

## Reinstitution of the draft is not even on the table

BY DONALD RUMSFELD

**T**he peculiar thing about myths is that even the most far-fetched can be nearly impossible to extinguish. This is especially so when there is a vested interest in some quarters in keeping them alive.

Like many Americans, I have recently heard a great deal of misinformation talk about a so-called "secret plan" to bring back the draft. The plot is so secret that it doesn't exist. Neither our commander in chief nor the secretary of defense know anything about it. That's because it simply is not true.

Let me be even more emphatic on that point. To my knowledge, the time I have served as secretary of defense, the idea of re-instituting the draft has never been debated, endorsed, discussed, theorized, pondered or even whispered by anyone in the Bush administration. Who asked about it, the president has flatly rejected the idea. Similarly, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has said a draft is not needed or desirable. And the U.S. House of Representatives voted down a bill, offered by several Democratic congressmen, to reinstate the draft by a resounding 402-2 less than a month ago.

Yet, based on absolutely no actual evidence, partisans, conspiracy-mongers and troublemakers are attempting to scare and mislead young Americans by insisting that a draft is coming. This is mischief-making masquerading as a serious policy debate. It is shameful.

This entire deceit is underhanded and just plain wrong. Unfortunately, regrettably, incessantly, thanks to the available transmission belt in the media, it seems to be work-

ing. One recent opinion poll suggests that about half of America's young people surveyed believe that the President Bush favors reinstating the draft.

I take this issue seriously and personally. As a member of Congress in the 1960s, I was one of the first to support an all-volunteer force. I know the inequities and the problems — for both our society and our military — associated with compelling people to serve against their will in the armed forces. Quite beyond the draft's inequities and inefficiencies, the United States simply does not need a draft. America has about 295 million people and some 2.6 million serving in the active and reserve components of our military. We don't need compulsion to attract and retain the people we need to serve our country.

As it stands today, the active Army and Marine Corps continue to exceed their recruiting goals despite the high pace of activity. Retention is also doing well. Particularly striking are re-enlistment rates for units that

have deployed overseas. Of the Army's 10 active-duty divisions, nine are exceeding re-enlistment goals by 5 percent or more.

The United States is so fortunate that every day so many brave and talented young men and women willingly sign up to serve their country, knowing full well — just from watching the nightly news — the dangers and sacrifices involved.

Each one is a volunteer, and if it happened that we were to not have enough people to serve, all we would have to do is what any other organization would do — and that is increase the incentives and make military service a more attractive option for the best and brightest young people.

There is stress on our forces — but not because of any shortage of uniformed personnel.

For example, there are more than 1 million soldiers in the active Army, Army Reserve and National Guard. Of those, less than 12 percent are deployed to the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters. And the Army has al-

ready increased its active strength by as many as 30,000 troops since Sept. 11, 2001.

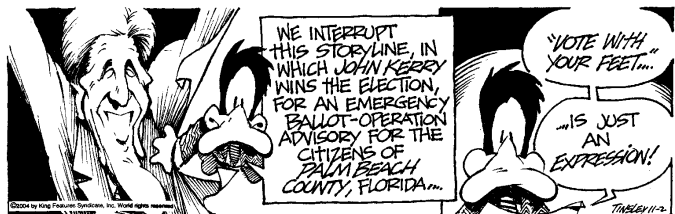
The issue is that our forces, particularly the Army, are not properly organized for the post-Cold War era. Too many skills needed on active duty are heavily concentrated in the reserve components. Too many of the active forces are not readily deployable. Too many military personnel — tens of thousands — are performing tasks that could and should be performed by civilians.

We have undertaken a range of initiatives to increase the pool of deployable troops within the armed forces and the quality of life for servicemembers and their families. The result will be that individual troops will be deployed less often, for shorter periods of time and with more predictability.

With a professional, all-volunteer force, the U.S. military won the Cold War, liberated Afghanistan and Iraq, and has kept the peace in Asia and Europe. And the all-volunteer force will win the global war on terror.

Donald Rumsfeld is secretary of defense.

## Mallard Fillmore



# Candidates counter claims in war on terror

## Cheney invokes Pearl Harbor at late-night rally in Hawaii

By PETE YOST  
The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Invoking memories of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Vice President Dick Cheney told a late-night campaign rally Sunday that rival John Kerry neither understands nor has a plan to win today's war on terror.

In a 3,225-mile detour from the mainland battleground states, the vice president made the most of his visit to traditionally Democratic Hawaii by ripping into Kerry in the final hours of the campaign.

"We are standing just a few miles from Pearl Harbor, the site of a sudden attack... three years ago, America faced another sudden attack," Cheney told a crowd estimated by his aides at 9,000, the vice president's biggest crowd at a campaign event.

Cheney said that "the clearest, most important difference in this campaign is simple, to state: President Bush understands the war on terror and has a strategy for winning it. John Kerry does not."

Though it seems a huge task for Bush to actually win a state that has been a Democratic stronghold, Cheney's overnight trip is aimed at fueling the perception the president's re-election is assured.

Nationally, however, the latest national polls show the race to be extremely tight. Cheney spoke to a crowd inside the convention center as outside, some 80 people gathered across the street carrying signs in support of Kerry and running mate John Edwards. Several demonstrators inside the convention center briefly interrupted Cheney's remarks, but they were drowned out by audience chants of "four more years."

The vice president's remarks on national security paralleled his last campaign speech he has been giving for months, with the added punch of tying together the sneak attack that began U.S. involvement in World War II with the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The Kerry campaign says the senator



Vice President Dick Cheney waves to the crowd before leaving a Republican rally at the Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu on Sunday.

has spent the better part of his career working on behalf of the military and that he has been concerned about the consequences of giving the president a blank check in Iraq. "We're seeing the consequences of that in Iraq. It's a tragedy," Kerry campaign spokesman Phil Singer said Sunday.

Cheney told the cheering crowd in Honolulu, "Now in the final days of this campaign, John Kerry is running around talking tough. He's trying every which way to counter up his record of weakness on national defense. But he can't do it. It won't work."

The vice president then delivered what he tells critics is his favorite line: "As we like to say in Wyoming, you can put all the lipstick you want on a pig, but at the end of the day, it'll still be a pig!" The line drew such a roar that Cheney, as he sometimes does, asked if the crowd wanted to hear it again. They did, and he repeated it.

## Kerry says he would move quickly on national security

By MARY DALRYMPLE  
AND NEDRA PICKLER  
The Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Democrat John Kerry says he plans "very strong and real steps" to buttress national security if elected president.

"If the American people make me president Tuesday, they will see a flurry of activity and leadership with respect to our national security interests that they've never seen, but I'm going to wait until I'm there," Kerry said in an interview Sunday with The Associated Press.

With Osama bin Laden still at large and security uncertain in Iraq, Kerry declined to talk about specific plans. "I'm going to make America safer and I have some very strong and real steps to take quite immediately to make that happen," he said in an interview about his campaign plan.

With the outcome of the race still too close to call, the Massachusetts senator talked both in terms of "if I win" and "when I win." He said he's prepared to raise legal challenges if problems arise at the polls, and he said he's tired but confident and eager to end the campaign.

"Sure I'm tired. I've been campaigning for almost two years now," Kerry said. "I know we can make life better for people in America and I'm excited by it."

"I think Americans are going to vote for change," he said.

If Kerry is elected, the country will switch presidents in wartime for the first time since Lyndon Johnson left office after Richard Nixon was elected in 1968.

Kerry said he is not concerned that President Bush is preparing an attack in the Iraqi city of Fallujah, which could be carried out with Bush as a lame duck before Kerry takes office on Jan. 20.

If he wins, Kerry said, he would begin putting his Cabinet together "as fast as I



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry listens to a sermon during Sunday services at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio.

can." Some names being mentioned for his national security team include former United Nations Ambassador Richard Holbrooke and Delaware Sen. Joseph Biden, senior Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee.

Kerry also said:

■ He supports the Electoral College system for selecting a president, calling it "actually quite genius" for its ability to give smaller states a voice in the election.

■ He would keep the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives created by Bush and predicted he would see more success by drawing a clear line between religious activity and social aid.

■ He has run "a very positive campaign" without negative ads.

Kerry's campaign is running several state-specific spots that assail the president, though.

## Votes on gay marriage could sway some battleground states

By TIM JONES  
Chicago Tribune

Voters in 11 states will decide Tuesday whether to ban gay marriage, and two of those states — the political battlegrounds of Michigan and Ohio — will be watched closely to see if the emotional issue might tilt the outcome of the tight presidential race.

As much as the amendments themselves, the political pull of this issue will be tested.

While legislatures have moved with unusual speed to place constitutional bans on gay marriage before voters, the issue has not overtaken voter concerns about the economy, health care, war in Iraq and the fight against terrorism.

But political analysts say the proposals could encourage additional turnout from people concerned about the issue and provide the margin of victory in tossup states like Michigan, with 17 electoral votes, and Ohio, with 20. In Missouri, for instance, the first state to approve a constitutional ban on gay marriage this year, almost 1.5 million people cast ballots on the marriage amendment in August, roughly 40,000 more than the total vote in the

state's hotly contested gubernatorial primary election.

Pre-election polls in Missouri showed about 60 percent of voters supported the measure. The proposal passed with a whopping 71 percent. Louisiana voters approved a similar ban in September, with 78 percent.

Interviews with registered voters around the country show morality-based issues — abortion, prayer in school, religion, gay marriage — are prominent concerns, especially among Republicans.

What that means for Election Day, however, is not clear because these issues cross party lines and are not exclusively identified with particular candidates.

"You may see a 3 to 4 percentage point increase in turnout over 2000," John Green, a political scientist at the University of Akron, said of the Ohio ballot measure.

"You have to make a lot of guesses about this," said Green, who studies the relationship of politics and religion. "A lot of these people may not vote for (President) Bush. Some African-Americans will come out for the marriage amendment, but they will vote for (Sen.) John Kerry."

Ed Sarpolus, vice president of

EPIC-MRA, a Michigan-based public research firm, said the gay marriage proposal "may add a percent."

"Will it have an impact? Some. Significant? No," Sarpolus said.

On Tuesday, Oregon, Montana, Utah, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan will decide proposed constitutional amendments that would say marriage is a union between a man and a woman.

Nearly all opinion polls have shown the measures getting strong, if not overwhelming, support. An Ohio poll from the University of Cincinnati released last week showed 57 percent of voters intend to vote for the measure, while 40 percent signaled their opposition. That represents an 8-percentage-point drop in support from September, the poll said.

The Ohio poll said 73 percent of likely voters who say they will vote for Bush would vote for the ban. Kerry voters are against the amendment, 55 percent to 42 percent, the poll said.

The proposals are likely to have the greatest effect energizing the Christian conservative Republican voting base, Green said. A poll released Thursday by

the National Annenberg Election Survey showed four percent of voters ranked moral values as their most important issue, with the biggest support coming from white born-again Christians and people who attend religious services more than once a week.

Kenneth Warren, a political scientist and pollster at St. Louis University, said primary and general elections are different political exercises. Although more voters cast ballots for the gay marriage proposal than in the gubernatorial race in Missouri, Warren noted people not interested in politics could request individual nonpartisan ballots that did not offer choices in the governor's race. He said a gambling proposal that was also on the ballot drew almost the same number of votes as the marriage amendment.

Warren said the contentious battle for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination — incumbent Bob Holden was ousted by Claire McCaskill, the first time in Missouri history a governor had been removed in a primary — drew voters to the polls in record numbers.

"If you're not motivated to turn out in a presidential race," Warren said, "you're not going to be motivated to turn out for a ballot proposal."

# Two federal judges bar challengers at Ohio polls

## GOP plans appeal on ruling of testing voter eligibility

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Two federal judges on Monday barred parties from posting challengers at polling places throughout Ohio, saying poll workers, not outsiders, should determine voter eligibility.

State Republicans planned to appeal.

An order by U.S. District Judge Susan Dlott of Cincinnati found that the application of Ohio's statute allowing challengers at polling places was unconstitutional.

In a similar case, U.S. District Judge John Adams of Akron said poll workers are the ones to determine if voters are eligible.

"In light of these extraordinary circumstances, and the contentious nature of the imminent election, the court cannot and must not turn a blind eye to the substantial likelihood that significant harm will result not only to voters, but also to the voting process itself, if appointed challengers are permitted at the polls," Adams said.

Dlott said the presence of chal-

lengers inexperienced in the electoral process questioning voters about their eligibility would impede voting.

In comments made before Adams ruled, Mark Weaver, lawyer for the Ohio Republican Party, called Dlott's ruling erroneous and said the party would ask the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati to overturn it.

Dlott ruled on a lawsuit by a black Cincinnati couple who said Republican plans to deploy challengers to largely black precincts in Hamilton County was meant to intimidate and block black voters.

Adams ruled in a suit by the Summit County Democratic Party, which claimed the law allowing registration challenges is unconstitutional because it does not give a disqualified voter a chance to appeal in time to cast a ballot.

Republicans wanted to put challengers in many polling places because of concerns about fraud with hundreds of thousands of newly registered voters in a state Presidential Bush and Sen. John Kerry both say they need to win.

Dlott said in her order that the evidence "does not indicate that the presence of additional challengers would serve Ohio's interest in preventing voter fraud better than would the system of election judges."

The rulings apply to all 88 counties, said Carlo LoPano, a spokesman for Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell.

If the challengers appointed by political parties, issue campaigns and candidates are barred from polling places Tuesday, the only people under state law who could then issue challenges to would-be voters would be the four election officers at each precinct, two Republican and two Democrat, or another voter.

In a separate case last week, Dlott had temporarily halted election board hearings on challenges. The state GOP had challenged 35,000 registrations because mail to those addresses came back undelivered. Democrats said the GOP was trying to keep poor and minorities, who move more often, from voting, and was targeting new voters registered by political groups supporting Kerry.

# Observers to monitor U.S. vote for first time

By JOHN-THOR DALBROUGH  
Los Angeles Times

MIAMI — If they can get in the door, election observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe will be keeping an outsider's eye on the U.S. voting process Tuesday.

For the first time, machinery created at U.S. government prompting to foster the spread of democratic elections throughout the former Soviet bloc is being used to assess how freely and fairly America chooses its chief executive.

On Tuesday, at least 75 election monitors from OSCE, an intergovernmental organization founded to help bridge the East-West divide during the Cold War, plan to be in the ground in precincts from coast to coast to observe and deliver an independent evaluation of how America votes.

Under its commitments as an OSCE member, the United States is required to invite the outside scrutiny of its electoral process.

What the observers will be able to see firsthand, though, is still unclear.

Konrad Olaszewski has flown to Florida as part of the international team, but the elections advisers from Poland and Slovakia might not be able to get very close to the ballot box.

Olaszewski and another foreign observer from Canada were received courteously the previous day by Florida Secretary of State Glenda Hood, but told that under the laws of this state, poll-watchers must be registered voters in the county where they desire to observe the voting, and must submit written applications in advance. Said Alia Farrar, Hood's spokeswoman.

Olaszewski said he came to his meeting with Hood in Tallahassee bearing documents from the U.S. State Department attesting his status, but that made no difference as far as Florida law and officials were concerned. "The secretary of state welcomed us, but said she really had no authority to give us access (to the polls) on Election Day," Olaszewski, a former journalist with the Polish newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza, said.

As of Saturday afternoon, Olaszewski was in Miami, meeting with Miami-Dade County election officials and becoming resigned to the likelihood he would not be able to get inside polling places Tuesday.

But, Olaszewski said, he was being allowed in Miami to observe early voting and the opening of mail-in absentee ballots, and he had been told he could be present for the tallying of results.

Urdur Gunnarsdottir, spokeswoman for the OSCE mission, said problems similar to those Olaszewski is encountering have been cropping up in numerous locales because the United States, unlike many countries, has decentralized elections system.

Andrew Bruce, 34, a Briton who has been observing elections for the OSCE for four years, said he was planning to be in Ohio on Tuesday, but that he didn't know whether he'd be allowed to watch the actual vote tally. During a trip last week to Pennsylvania, Bruce said he and a fellow election monitor from Russia had trouble in meeting with that state's secretary of state and director of elections in Harrisburg, the state capital, but that he had a telephone conversation with the secretary's chief of staff.

# Fla. hopes 2004 isn't a repeat of 2000 — but it could happen

By DAVID ROYSE  
The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The state that turned the 2000 U.S. presidential election into turmoil with confusing butterfly ballots and hanging chads is conducting elections differently this time around, embarrassed into overhauling everything from its machinery to its recount rules.

But one thing is still the same going into Election Day — it's far from clear who is going to win the state, and the prospect of another recount remains.

The most obvious change that Florida has made since 2000 is its equipment — the infamous punch-card ballots with their hanging and pregnant chads have been replaced by optical scan systems and touch-screen machines.

Most of Florida will use the optical scan systems, which worked pretty well four years ago. Voters fill in oval or complete an incomplete line on a paper ballot to indicate their choice, and an optical scanner reads their ballot.

Fifteen counties use touch-screen machines, where voters indicate their selection by touching

spaces on a computer screen. There is no paper ballot.

Congress also required states to offer provisional ballots, which allow people to vote even if they're told they're not on a precinct's voter lists. Elections officials will later verify if the ballots are legal and count them if they are.

If the initial returns indicate the margin of victory in a particular race is one-half of 1 percent or less, local elections officials must order a machine recount, unless the losing candidate declines.

In the 52 counties that use optical scan voting machines, a machine recount is done by simply running the paper ballots back through the scanners.

In the 15 counties with touch-screen machines, officials will have to compare pre-audited results with the official returns. If there is a discrepancy, the precinct-level counts are presumed to be correct.

But what if there's a tie? As unlikely as that might be in a presidential race, there's a rule for that, too.

The candidates "shall draw lots to determine who shall be elected to the office," the law says.

# Networks planning to track oddities

By DAVID BAUDER  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Before 2000, the focus of television Election Night coverage was pretty simple: Count votes as fast as you can and explain why people voted the way they did.

Two trends in this year's plans show the residual impact of hanging chads and blown calls. Networks are intent on following potential voter irregularities and laying bare their own decision-making processes as results flood in. ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, PBS, CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC will all devote prime time to election results Tuesday night. Smaller networks with specialized audiences, like BET and MTV, have unprecedented coverage because of the intense interest in the presidential race.

Chip Reid will be stationed at the "Making Your Vote Count" desk at NBC News. ABC's Jake Napper will deliver "Ballot Watch" reports. Mike Brzezinski at CBS, Major Garrett at Fox News Channel and Jeffrey



Workers put the finishing touches on the NBC News election studios overlooking the Rockefeller Center skating rink in New York. Broadcast networks will devote their prime time to election coverage on Tuesday.

Toobin at CNN all have the same assignments: Comb the country for reports of potential fraud or disenfranchised voters.

"We all got a civics lesson in 2000 so good that we feel we need some good intelligence with secretaries of state in every battleground state," said Paul Mattson, ABC News senior vice president.

"After the election, the story will be about how broken the election system is," NBC's Tom Brokaw said.

Networks also want to build

public confidence in their performance after the 2000 disaster. You'll recall them declaring Al Gore the winner in Florida, rescinding it, giving Florida and the presidency to George Bush, then having to wait several weeks before a court fight settled the outcome.

ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News Channel and The Associated Press collaborated to construct a new exit poll system from scratch. The AP will also be the sole source for a nationwide vote tabulation.



## Dog phones 911

**WA** RICHLAND — Leana Beasley has faith that a dog is man's best friend.

Faith, a 4-year-old Rottweiler, phoned 911 when Beasley fell out of her wheelchair. The dog barked urgently into the receiver until a dispatcher sent help. Then the service dog unlocked the front door for the police officer.

"I sensed there was a problem on the other end of the 911 call," said dispatcher Jenny Buchanan. "The dog was too persistent in barking directly into the phone receiver. I knew she was trying to tell me something."

Faith is trained to summon help by pushing a speed-dial button on the phone with her nose after taking the receiver off the hook, said her owner, Beasley, 45, who suffers from bad seizures.

Guided by experts at the Assistance Dog Club of Puget Sound, Beasley helped train Faith herself. The day of the call, Faith "had been acting very clingy, wanting to be touching me all day long," Beasley said.

The dog, whose sensitive nose can detect changes in Beasley's body chemistry, is trained to alert her owner to impending seizures. But that wasn't what was happening on Sept. 7, and Faith apparently wasn't sure how to communicate the problem. During Beasley's three-week hospital stay, doctors determined her liver was not properly processing her seizure medication.

## No sweets at school

**CT** MILFORD — Cupcakes are contraband at Meadowside elementary school.

Principal Robert Davis' ban on all celebratory sweets has made some parents sour.

Health officials said Davis adopted a new policy of using games and crafts instead of baked goods to celebrate birthdays, holidays and special occasions, and praised it as a way to combat childhood obesity.

Parent Jack Fowler said no one should dictate what students can bring to school for special events. He said health and school officials have turned into the "fat police," in an attempt to rid schools of foods children enjoy.

Mayor James L. Richetelli Jr. said as a parent he can understand health and school officials' concern regarding food allergies and childhood obesity, but cupcakes should remain.

## Gear falls off plane

**FL** SAFETY HARBOR — Part of the landing gear of a Delta airliner bound for Tampa fell from the sky and onto the roof of a mobile home where a retiree was sitting down to sip a beer.

No one was injured, and the Boeing 767 aircraft landed at Tampa International Airport without incident, authorities said.

A 7-by-7-foot aluminum door that covers the landing gear fell but did not affect the airplane's integrity, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. Pilots aboard Delta Flight 432 may not have even known about the malfunction until after the plane landed.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

On the ground, John Nork had just started a can of Budweiser in his screened-in porch when he thought a neighboring palm tree crashed onto his roof.

"I never thought of something falling from the sky," said Nork, 62, a former Marine and retired auto-plant employee. "I had just gotten settled in, and here's this big boom! It was right over my head."

He stayed in his fold-up lawn chair for more than five minutes, he said, too shocked to move.

## FEMA asks for space

**WV** CHARLESTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency is asking mobile home park operators to help provide spaces for temporary flood housing to help Northern Panhandle residents who suffered damage when the remnants of Hurricane Ivan hit the state last month. FEMA is turning to mobile home parks because there's a limited number of rental units in the area.

## Foster parent suspected

**CO** LONGMONT — A foster parent and former teacher is being investigated on suspicion of making child-pornography movies with a hidden camera in the bathroom of his home.



## Gas-powered job

Paul Gonzalez uses a gas-powered blower to move leaves off a sidewalk in Anderson, S.C.

A warrant out for the arrest of Laurence Reed Senterfit, 43, includes a bail amount of \$500,000. He has not been taken into custody because he is in a hospital, recovering from a suicide attempt after running his car into a parked recreation vehicle, according to police.

Senterfit plowed into the abandoned motor home Oct. 12 and has been hospitalized since then with 10 broken ribs, a broken sternum and a broken pelvis, police said.

## Candidate bows out

**AR** CONWAY — A Republican state legislative candidate suspended his campaign after news surfaced of his arrest record for exposing himself to children.

Alan Fortney was arrested three times since 1981 on misdemeanor counts of indecent exposure. He was fined but never served time in jail, he told the Log Cabin Democrat newspaper of Conway, about 25 miles north of Little Rock.

In a statement, Fortney said he was suspending his campaign because he believes "it is in the best interest of my family and me personally to take my name out of consideration for this office."

Fortney, 42, told The Associated Press he didn't "know what else to say."

"My name will still be on there (the ballot) but I've discontinued my campaign. I pulled the ads, everything," he said.

If he gets elected anyway, Fortney said, "I will deal with it, at that time."

Fortney's Democratic opponent, Betty Pickett, said she was surprised but had no further comment.

## Landscaper arrested

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — A San Francisco Bay landscaper is accused of scamming seniors out of up to \$4 million in a bogus investment scheme that may cost some of them their homes.

Charles Melvin Turner, 43, was arrested after Santa Clara County sheriff's investigators uncovered widening allegations he persuaded at least 10 seniors to loan millions that he claimed would be invested in his online dating service, LoveConcierge.com, and a vending machine firm.

Instead, investigators claim the money often went for lavish spending by Turner and his wife on travel, luxury cars, dining out and "living well," said Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney Cindy Hendrickson.

"These people are devastated," the prosecutor said of people as old as age 93. "They not only have to deal with the financial loss, but they have to deal with the betrayal of someone they really, really trusted."

## School regains rights

**IN** SOUTH BEND — Indiana University South Bend was given approval to again review its own research projects. Research with human subjects was briefly halted one year ago because the school didn't follow proper procedures in approving the research methods.

Concerns arose because some researchers were incorrectly told by the campus review board that their projects didn't require board approval.



Beauty is not for every pup — Susan Guadagno of Key West, Fla., puts finishing touches on pug Rosie's costume during the Fantasy Fest Pet Masquerade and Parade in Key West, Fla.



Amish life — An Amish farmer uses draught horses to pull an implement to collect cornstalks from the fields in Pulaski, Pa.



Sleeping chicks — Katie Smith, from Lincoln, Neb., tries to quiet her 5-month-old daughter, Bella, prior to the Kiddle Parade as 3-month-old Gracie McClain, from Independence, Kan., sleeps on during the Newswall festival. Newswall, which is Halloween spelled backwards, is an Independence tradition.





## Staying focused

Juan Lucero peers through a pair of binoculars at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, N.M., to look at the lunar eclipse.



## Just taking my time

A bison walks down a road in the Lamar Valley of Yellowstone National Park, Wyo., as people in automobiles observe the migration while waiting their turn to move.



## Rough track

Eneko Llanos of Spain negotiates rocky terrain en route to taking first place in the Xterra World Championship in Maui, Hawaii.



## Central Park fall colors

Boaters on The Lake at Central Park row past a bank of trees turning colors in New York.

## Book didn't help

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — An unemployed man — who had just bought a copy of "The Big Bad Book of American Bank Robbery" when the FBI arrested him — was sentenced to more than nine years in prison for robbing nearly two dozen banks across California.

Buchon Buchanan, 32, was also ordered by U.S. District Judge Fern Smith in San Francisco to pay \$84,885 in restitution for his spree of robberies that ended in September 2003.

When police arrested Buchanan, they found the bank-robbery book, chronicling the history of bank heists and describing various holdup techniques, in his car, authorities said. A receipt showed that he bought the book only an hour before his last robbery.

## Remains, beer lifted

**WI** PORTAGE — A woman dug up her dead boyfriend's ashes more than 10 years ago and drank the beer that was buried with him, possibly out of spite for his family, authorities said.

The family of Michael Hendrickson contacted authorities when they received information that his remains had been stolen. An exhumation revealed Hendrickson's cremated remains — along with beer and cigarettes that were buried with him — were missing.

Detectives searched the home of his ex-girlfriend, Karen Stolzmann, and discovered her hiding in the shower. Remains believed to be Hendrickson's were found in the garage, according to Columbia County Detective Wayne Smith, who called the case "twisted and bizarre."

Stolzmann, 44, was charged with a misdemeanor count of concealing stolen property. Detective Jay Yerges said Stolzmann and Hendrickson were living together in the early 1990s, while they were both married to other people. The relationship was stormy, with a pattern of alcohol and domestic abuse, he said.

Stolzmann was present when the 27-year-old Hendrickson shot himself in January 1992. Yerges said Hendrickson's family blamed her for his death and she was not invited to his services.

Robbing graves, a felony offense, has a six-year statute of limitations.

## Deaths seem accidental

**FL** ORLANDO — The deaths of six family members in a home filled with a lethal level of carbon monoxide appear to be "a tragic accident," officials said.

Nothing suggests the woman, two men and three boys were deliberately killed or died in a suicide attempt, said Orange County Sheriff's Cpl. Allen Lee.

A car was found in the garage with the ignition on after the bodies were discovered. Authorities believe the car may have been out of gas.

The bodies of the family members were found by a neighbor; all were in their beds. Authorities believe the owner of the car, who worked a late shift, may have been tired and forgot to shut off the car.

"This is looking more and more like a tragic accident," Lee said.

The car's exhaust was close to an intake for the home's air conditioning, which apparently spread

the deadly gas throughout the residence.

Autopsies have been conducted; toxicology reports are due in eight to 12 weeks.

## School standards down

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — Nearly 20 percent of the state's public schools were given a passing grade because of lowered standards, not improved performance, a Philadelphia Inquirer analysis concluded. According to the report, more than twice as many schools in Pennsylvania wouldn't have made what's termed "adequate yearly progress" toward federally mandated goals this year if certain standards hadn't been changed by the state.

## Students to be excused

**GA** DULUTH — Muslim students in Georgia's largest school system would be allowed to leave school early on Fridays to attend a mosque under a compromise reached by Muslim leaders and school officials. The announcement came after Isam Rashid and Imad Rashid, two brothers at Duluth High School, asked to be excused early for a weekly prayer required of Muslims.

## Genetic tests expanded

**NY** ALBANY — Babies born in New York will be tested for 44 genetic diseases — more than any other state — under an expansion of the state's newborn screening program.

Infants are currently screened for 11 inherited and sometimes life-threatening disorders including cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia and phenylketonuria.

Under the expanded program, the number of diseases tested in newborns would quadruple by 2005. Twenty diseases will be added by the end of this year and another 13 in 2005.

Early diagnosis and prompt treatment after birth can prevent mental retardation and other complications later on. Iowa, Mississippi and North Dakota test between 38 to 43 inherited diseases in newborns, according to the National Newborn Screening and Genetics Resource Center.

## Elderly man killed

**CA** ONTARIO — An elderly man was fatally shot by three teenagers as he took his daily walk in the park, police said.

Fidencio Guzman, 89, was shot at a park in Ontario, said Detective Al Parra. The retired farmer originally from Mexico was transported to a local hospital where he died.

Parra said two 17-year-olds and a 16-year-old were taken into custody at Chaffey High School and incriminated each other during questioning. He said all three were booked for investigation of murder; their names will not be released until charges are filed.

The detective said the suspects went to the park intending to rob other juveniles but approached Guzman and demanded money. When he didn't understand, they began patting him down and then shot Guzman several times as he tried to stand, Parra said. Witnesses saw three male teenagers wearing ski masks run through the park immediately after the shooting.

Stories and photos from wire services

## FACES



Members of the Canadian rock band Sum 41 gather on a roof top in central London. The band — from left, lead singer Deryck Whibley, bassist Jay McCaslin, guitarist Dave Baksh and drummer Steve Jocz — is currently on a promotional tour to launch their new album entitled "CHUCK." AP

# Stage antics aside, Sum 41 is all grown up

BY COLLEEN LONG  
The Associated Press

**W**hether they like it or not, the punks from Sum 41 are growing up.

The Canadian foursome of 20-somethings has crafted a more focused and melodic new album, "CHUCK," with a much heavier sound than their obnoxious teenage boy anthem "Fat Lip." They have all recently become homeowners. And — gasp! — lead singer Deryck Whibley says he's sick of going to strip clubs and getting drunk all the time.

Guy: We know you pride yourselves on crazy antics, on and off stage — but this is not how immature people behave.

The band named the new album for a United Nations worker who saved their lives while they were shooting a documentary in the Republic of Congo.

Whibley, guitarist Dave Baksh, bassist Jay McCaslin and drummer Steve Jocz traveled there in May for the nonprofit group War Child Canada.

The last day of shooting, a year-long peace was broken and gunfire erupted around them. After the U.N. worker helped them out of the hotel, which was directly in the line of fire, they spent hours huddled in a U.N. compound before getting a flight out.

"Surprisingly, the whole thing didn't do much to us. It was crazy and we survived it, but it didn't make me appreciate life or anything more." Whibley said via phone from London. "What it did was give me an understanding of how awful it really is down there."

Whibley says it's not strange for a rock group to do nonprofit work.

"I think people are surprised by some of the things we do, that they are good things," he said. "We're still the same people, it doesn't matter if we're on stage yelling or doing charity work."

Whibley and the others are from Ajax, Ontario, a tiny town where there's not much else to do but be angry about

being stuck in a tiny town.

"When you're living in a big city, there's so much to see and do," he said. "But when you're living in a (expletive) town in the middle of nowhere there's nothing else to do but music."

The four have known each other about 10 years. About five years ago the band put together a video of sorts, set to their music, showing them eating houses and causing all sorts of trouble in their little town. The video caused a buzz in the music industry and the band was able to take their pick of record labels, choosing Island/Def Jam.

Their first album, "All Killer No Filler," sounds a little like old Beastie Boys stuff, and "Does This Look Infected?" is only about 32 minutes long.

Initially, their shows drew a lot of young girls. "There's no loyalty to bands when you're that age," Whibley said. "Your music taste changes every second. This time around we've gotten some guys and some older girls and we're happier about it."

He says the band still goes out every night in true rock star fashion, drinking and breaking things and frequenting nude bars.

But recently, when the band was shuttled to a posh London strip club to feast on steak and lobster and oggle the half-naked women serving drinks, Whibley just couldn't get into it.

"I never thought I'd get to a point where I'm not that excited about seeing really hot, naked women," he said. "I feel kind of spoiled saying it."

He won't say whether that has anything to do with his reported relationship with another angsty Canadian singer, Avril Lavigne.

Whibley won't talk about that at all, although he's quick to correct a reporter who asks if Lavigne is 18 ("She's 20.") Whibley quickly changes the subject, saying he's always wanted to be more of a rock star than a musician.

"I didn't want to be some guy playing a guitar in a bar," he said. "But that doesn't mean I don't like to be musical or to experiment with new sounds. We don't like repeating ourselves."

Sounds like some pretty mature stuff.

## Chow says he's misunderstood

Actor **Chow Yun-Fat** says he is misunderstood in Hollywood, where he is cast mostly in action films involving gunplay.

"I'm unlucky. Nobody understands me," the Ming Pao Daily News quoted Chow as telling a group of university students. "But I can wait. I hope someone who understands me will come along."

Chow said Hollywood is fixated on his on-screen gunfighter style.

"Foreigners look me up because of John Woo's movies, only because they see that my gun scenes are good," Chow said, referring to the Hong Kong director who has also moved on to Hollywood.

Woo directed Chow in the Hong Kong productions "A Better Tomorrow" and "Hard Boiled," which showcased Chow's action-scene prowess. But the actor also starred in romance films such as "An Autumn's Tale," and "Love in a Fallen City."



Chow

## Ma\$e: God is the king of bling bling

Thou shalt bling? According to **Ma\$e**, God doesn't mind when people adorn themselves with flashy jewelry.

"He don't have no problem with you blinging," the rapper said in an interview, during which he wore a jeweled necklace and bracelet.

God's heavenly abode proves that he's the real king of bling, Ma\$e added.

"His gates are pearly, his house is about 10 stadiums big, the streets are gold — you do the budget on that kind of place," said Ma\$e, 26.

Ma\$e retired from rap in 1999 to follow a religious calling, but returned to hip-hop this summer with the album "Welcome Back," which is free of the cursing, drug references and womanizing that peppered his earlier work. Ma\$e continues to preach in the Atlanta area.

## A Della Reese by any other name...

Actress **Della Reese** is joining an elite group of famous people who have roses named after them.

With the "Della" rose, she joins the ranks of the late Princess Diana, President John F. Kennedy, Queen Elizabeth and Dolly Parton.

The fragrant hybrid with a deep burgundy color will be dedicated to the actress' honor Jan. 3 in a ceremony sponsored by Armstrong Garden Centers.

Reese, 73, who starred in the long-running series "Touched by an Angel," grows several dozen varieties of roses at her home, said her publicist, Eric Raymond.

"Roses are very special to me," Reese said. "There's a spiritual aspect to them that appeals to me and, like people, each one is uniquely individual and beautiful."

## Tom Ford comes out with big, bold book

Former Gucci designer **Tom Ford**'s new book is like his description of Texas fashion: big and bold.

"There's a boldness to Texans that carries over into fashion and I like that," said Ford, who stepped down in the spring as creative director for the Italian luxury fashion house after 10 years.

The native Texan was in Dallas on Thursday for a party to celebrate his new book, "Tom Ford," a look book at his designs for Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent.

The 43-year-old said that doing the book was cathartic after leaving Gucci.

"It seemed like a perfect time to re-live everything, revisit it, box up all the things that meant something to me in a beautiful book and slipcover and call it a chapter of my life and move on," Ford said.

Ford, who has a film production office in Los Angeles, said directing will be his next endeavor. But he doesn't rule out the possibility of returning to design.

"Six months ago I thought 'No, never,'" he said. "Now I think, 'Yes, probably.'"



Ford



## EUROPEAN FORECAST

**Benelux:** Mostly cloudy with rain-showers. Highs in the 50s, Wednesday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

**Britain, Ireland:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the lower to mid 50s, Wednesday lows in the lower 40s to lower 50s.

**Croatia and Bosnia:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 70s. Wednesday lows in the lower to mid 50s.

**France:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 50s to mid 70s, Wednesday lows in the lower 40s to mid 50s.

**Northern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the lower to mid 50s, Wednesday lows in the lower 40s to lower 50s.

**Southern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 50s to mid 60s, Wednesday lows in the upper 40s to mid 50s.

**Hungary:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 60s, Wednesday lows in the mid-40s.

**Northern Italy:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers and fog. Highs in the mid 60s to mid 70s, Wednesday lows in the upper 50s to mid 60s.

**Southern Italy:** Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid to upper 70s, Wednesday lows in the mid 50s to lower 60s.

**Kosovo:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the low to mid 70s, Wednesday lows in the low to mid 50s.

**Norway:** Partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the lower 40s to low 50s, Wednesday lows in the low 30s to mid 40s.

**Portugal, Spain:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 50s to upper 60s, Wednesday lows in the upper 30s to mid 50s.

**Turkey:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower to upper 70s, Wednesday lows in the mid-50s

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at:  
<https://ows.sembach.af.mil>  
<http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil>

## AFRIC



## AFRICA

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Cape Town	74	56	Mogadishu	83	7
Dakar	88	76	Nairobi	81	6
Freetown	87	75	Rabat	70	5
Kinshasa	87	71	Trienli	79	5

## THE WORLD

	HI	LO		HI
Amsterdam	54	46	Manila	90
Bahrain	90	68	Mexico City	75
Beijing	60	35	Montreal	42
Beirut	82	68	Riyadh	89
Bermuda	77	70	Rio de Jan	82
Caracas	90	77	Seoul	60
Helsinki	44	36	Sofia	77
Hong Kong	83	70	Sydney	80
Ishigaki	64	57	Tokyo	68

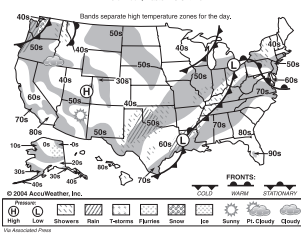
## TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

[illegible]

## MIDEAST

## THE UNITED STATES TODAY

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time



Scheduled to **ETS** or **PCS**?



# Horoscope

This Election Day, the moon is in the most patriotic placement as it transits through Cancer, the birth sign of America. Voter turnout should be up and spirits high, with flags aptly waving proudly. The Scorpio sun is compatible with the Cancer moon, and we'll ask questions, use our intuition and seek the truth until the last ballot is cast.

**Joyce Jillion**



**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (November 2).** You will be swept up in the spirit of generosity and enthusiasm this year, and will suddenly feel a deep need to help others by volunteering in your community. Your efforts will be rewarded in very surprising ways — you may find your soul mate in December while doing a good deed for someone else. Lucky love signs are Cancer and Leo.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** What you want from others is conflicting with what they need for themselves. Try not to take it personally if your sweetie or a friend doesn't seem to have time for you right now.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** A new challenge will force you to see a different side of yourself than you normally face. Don't be surprised if you find yourself speaking in public to a large group — nerve-racking, sure, but nothing you can't handle.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You've been spinning your wheels, feeling stalled while the rest of the world is on fast-forward. What you need is a change of scenery to shake the cobwebs out of your eyes.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** A certain difficult co-worker loves to push your buttons. He or she always knows exactly what to say to make you feel insecure, especially if it's about your personal life. Try compassion rather than getting defensive.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Your enthusiasm revives everyone around you by providing a much-needed energy boost. One word of caution: Someone higher up is trying to take

all the credit for your work.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** A female friend or co-worker who is younger and less educated than you will be able to offer you startling insights into a personal problem. Sometimes, your book smarts blind you to the simplest answers.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22).** Belief always trumps doubt. Sure, it's easy to keep your faith in the divine order of the universe when everything's coming up roses for you. It's much harder, and much more important, to keep it when the going gets tough.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Keep things moving in the right direction by communicating information clearly. This is especially true if you don't think what you're saying is particularly important. Your words are much more powerful than you realize.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** The big picture is coming into sharp focus, enabling you to discern recurring patterns and themes. Use this opportunity to correct your course of direction if necessary. Tie up any loose ends.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** The physics behind chaos theory says nothing happens by chance. Everything is cyclical, and the cycles are so long that some times events appear to us short-lived moments as bizarre flukes. Trust in life's process.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Be very clear about what you hope to achieve. When faced with an overly critical family member or friend, smile and tell that person you love him or her. Nothing else you tell them today will be understood, so don't even try.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** That special someone in your life is pulling away from you now because he or she is afraid of losing you too much and getting hurt. Your first instinct will be to hold on tight. Resist this urge.

Creators Syndicate

**Calvin and Hobbes**



**Jump Start**



**Zits**



**Cathy**



**Hi and Lois**



**Beetle Bailey**



**Red Rover**



**Better or Worse**



## To our readers

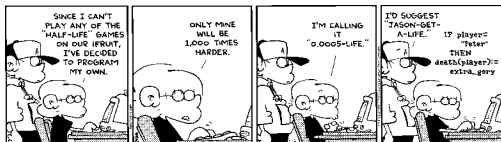
For the past decade, this column has been written by Joyce Jillion and Holiday Mathis. Ms. Jillion passed away on Oct. 1. Because Ms. Jillion and Ms. Mathis wrote in advance, columns they prepared will run through Nov. 6. Beginning Nov. 7, the horoscopes will be re-named "Horoscopes by Holiday" and will be authored by Ms. Mathis.

## Peanuts





Foxrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



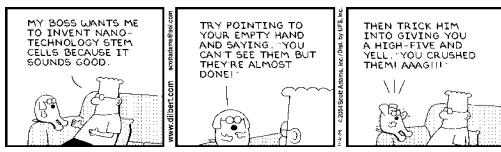
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



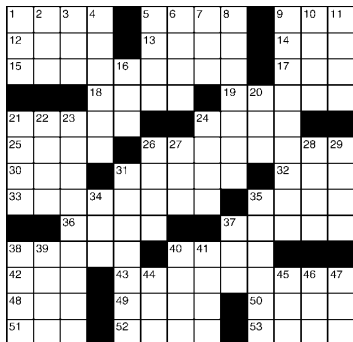
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### Across

- 1 The Mac-Donald place
- 5 Shooter's marbles
- 9 Poorly lit
- 12 Vicinity
- 13 Mediocre
- 14 Historic period
- 15 Bistro quaff
- 17 Cambridge sch.
- 18 Goose egg
- 19 Fried, filled dough
- 21 Golden Fleece princess
- 24 Appear
- 25 "My Cup Runneth Over": singer
- 26 Caller's go-ahead
- 30 Edge
- 31 "Fifth day of Christmas" gift
- 32 Neither mate
- 33 Its capital is Colombo
- 35 Mid-month
- 36 Predicaments
- 37 Prepared to propose
- 38 Mary's pal
- 40 Enthusiastic
- 42 Reaction to fireworks
- 43 Noted "Vanity Fair" cover model
- 48 Bart, to Homer
- 49 Shakespearean septet
- 50 Act the robot
- 51 Billboards

### Down

- 1 Craze
- 2 Exist
- 3 Sleep phenom
- 4 Cereal grasses
- 5 Ski lift carrier
- 6 Additionally
- 7 "It — the best of times, ..."
- 8 Money of Israel
- 9 Low-prize
- 10 Eye part
- 11 Calculator's job
- 12 Tomorrow affair
- 16 Bottom line
- 21 NASA destination
- 22 Middle Eastern rule
- 23 Narrow-necked bottles
- 24 Long story
- 26 Cacophonies
- 27 Squid squirt
- 28 Yule refrain
- 29 Formerly, formerly
- 31 A fast 30 days?
- 34 Young fellow
- 35 Not alfresco
- 37 Kipling hero
- 38 Santa, ... CA
- 39 Parka feature
- 40 Congregation's cry
- 41 Workbench
- 42 Swelled head
- 44 Sapporo sash
- 46 Rouge (Fr.)
- 47 Look at

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



11-2 CRYPTOQUIP

C N Z GHEERG KWBBQRQ

C J J - N C D D C E P Q W B R Q .

Q W R K B H J M R Z Q C J L N R R J

D W R Z P B E L B N M R - N R R D .

Yesterday's Cryptopquip: WHY WOULD A FELLOW BREAK INTO SONG? PERHAPS BECAUSE HE CAN'T FIND THE RIGHT KEY.

Today's Cryptopquip Clue: D equals T





# Hurricanes finding other goals to pursue

## Disappointed Miami likely out of title race

BY TIM REYNOLDS

The Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Optimism comes easily to Larry Coker, considering his teams rarely lose.

Miami's stunning 31-28 loss at North Carolina on Saturday night might have knocked the Hurricanes out of the national championship picture, ended a 10-game winning streak and was only the fourth loss in Coker's 45 games since taking over as head coach.

No matter how he tried Sunday, Coker couldn't mask some disappointment. Still, he insisted the Hurricanes — who are in a three-way tie atop the Atlantic Coast Conference and play Clemson at home Saturday — have plenty of goals worth pursuing.

"We've certainly got a lot to play for," Coker said. "It's more about us than it is a national title. It's more about us even than Clemson. We've got to get our ship righted, our ducks in a row, all the clichés you can say. It's more about us than anybody else."

And although North Carolina deserves plenty of credit for not being intimidated by big, bad Miami — which entered the game ranked No. 4, but dropped to 11th in Sunday's AP Top 25 poll — the Hurricanes (6-1) lost the game because its defense has become, well, offensive.

North Carolina entered Saturday's game with the nation's second-worst defense, but the Tar Heels made Miami's defense look second-rate. Miami yielded 545 yards and

30 first downs, plus couldn't stop North Carolina's 65-yard march that set up Connor Barth's winning 42-yard field goal as time expired.

Everything the Tar Heels tried against Miami's defense worked.

North Carolina ran for 279 yards and passed for 266 more against a defensive unit that, three games ago, was ranked among the nation's best.

Not anymore.

"We weren't able to take away one side of their offense," Coker said. "They could run the ball and pass the ball."

Brock Berlin and the offense bailed out Miami's defense against Louisville and North Carolina State, games where the Hurricanes allowed 507 and 440 yards, respectively. But against North Carolina, 338 yards passing from Berlin, 28 points and no turnovers by the offense still weren't enough.

"I don't know what we're supposed to feel right now," safety Brandon Meriweather said after Saturday's game. "I'm not used to losing."

If there is some consolation right now for the Hurricanes, it's this: Win out, and they'll be back in a Bowl Championship Series game for the fifth straight year, this time as ACC champions.

Five teams are separated by a half-game in the ACC race, with Miami, Virginia and Virginia Tech all sharing first place with 3-1 league marks. Miami is third on Nov. 13, and ends the regular season at home against the Hokies Dec. 4.



MIAMI HERALD/KRT

Miami defenders Tavares Gooden and Greg Threat make the stop against UNC's Jesse Holley. Miami gave up 545 yards and 30 first downs to the Tar Heels on Saturday.

"We're a resilient bunch, we're a tough bunch, we know there's a lot of season left and we've got some tough football games

left," Coker said. "That's a little bit of the beauty of college football. We do have some more opportunities."

## Stingy D propels Cal to historic rank

BY GREG BEACHAM

The Associated Press

BERKELEY, Calif. — A superb quarterback, a dominant running game and an inventive offensive scheme can take a team only so far.

California needed two fantastic defensive efforts to reach its highest ranking in 52 years.

The Golden Bears (6-1, 4-1 Pac-10) best Arizona State 27-0 Saturday night to record consecutive shutouts for the first time since 1968. The next morning, they moved up three spots in the AP poll to No. 4 — their highest rank since Oct. 20, 1952.

Cal's remarkable three-year turnaround was led by coach Jeff Tedford's offense, which capped the nation's attendance during week after week of high-scoring performances. Tedford's club led the nation in total offense last week before dropping to fourth with 492.4 yards per game.

But there's a new coaching star in Berkeley: Bob Gregory's defense has carried the Bears to new heights.

"We're really have to give all the credit to our defense for this one, because our offense struggled," said quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who passed for just 165 yards and two touchdowns against Arizona State. "We've got some injuries on offense, and it was great to see the D shutting them down."

The Bears are 14th in the nation in total defense, allowing 282.2 yards per game. After shutting out Arizona 38-0 a week earlier, Cal clamped down on Andrew Walter and the Sun Devils, frustrating one of the West Coast's better teams into a terrible performance.

Tedford gives Gregory complete autonomy over the defense, and the unit struggled at times during the last two years while the coaches recruited players good enough to compete with the Pac-10's best. Now that Cal's roster is teeming with talent, Gregory has all the tools he needs.

But Gregory, a former Washington State defensive back who still looks athletic enough to cover a wideout, has an extreme aversion to taking credit for his defense's accomplishments. He often seems to take praise of his game plan as an insult to his players.

"It's all effort by the guys," Gregory said. "There are no geniuses in coaching, guys. It's all about good players playing their fanies off. ... When we got close (to a shutout), I would hear those guys talking each other, 'Keep it going, keep it going.'"

Arizona State couldn't reach Cal territory in the first half, managing just 123 total yards. After falling behind 13-0, the Sun Devils were forced to take risks — and backup cornerback Tim Mixon intercepted an ill-advised



California running back J.J. Arrington, turns the corner for some of his 188 yards against Arizona State on Saturday.

pass in the third quarter, returning it 58 yards for the score that started the blowout.

Gregory blitzed cautiously, relying on his defensive line and linebackers to keep Walter uncomfortable. It worked: Cal held Walter to 238 yards passing while sacking him five times.

Gregory credits the defense's improvements to the return of nine players who were new starters last season. Their familiarity with Gregory's scheme was obvious when Cal held top-ranked Southern California to 205 yards last month — but still lost 23-17, a result that still ranks the Bears.

"It feels good to be where we are, but then there's that little itching in the back of your mind that we could have beat USC, and then where would we be?" Riddle asked.

## Things could only get worse for Texas A&M

BY JOEL ANDERSON

The Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Texas A&M can pretty much forget about the Big 12 South title, an improbable Bowl Championship Series berth or any momentum heading into its showdown against Oklahoma.

The Bad News Baylor Bears made sure of it.

Shawn Bell found Dominique Zeigler in the end zone for the winning 2-point conversion a play after they connected on a 12-yard touchdown pass in overtime, lifting Baylor to a 35-34 victory over Texas A&M on Saturday night.

The stunning finish was perhaps the perfect end to an improbable upset.

"I expected them to go for the 2-point conversion," Aggies coach Dennis Franchione said. "They ran that play excellently."

The Baylor players piled on top of each other in the corner of the end zone while students rushed the field, turning it up in a green and gold smash pit. They parted into the night long after the big win, pulling down the south gold post and carrying it up and out of Floyd Casey Stadium.

A&M players and fans watched the improbable scene in utter disbelief. The Aggies had won the last 13 games against their over-matched rival, including a 73-10 rout at College Station last year.

This was an upset 18 years in the making, and it couldn't have come at a worse time for Texas A&M (6-2, 4-1 Big 12).

The loss dropped the Aggies six spots in the AP poll to No. 22 and took a lot of the sizzle out of their matchup with No. 2 Oklahoma in College Station next Saturday. It would have been a battle of unbeaten teams in the Big 12 South.

"We can't sit around and hang our head on this loss," A&M quarterback Reggie McNeal said. "We've got to bounce back from this."

Aggies tailback Courtney Lewis had a puzzling explanation for the loss, given what A&M had at stake going into the game.

"They just wanted it more than we did," he said.

The Aggies had flirted with danger the week before against Colorado, pulling out a thrilling three-point win in overtime.

Their luck finally ran out at A&M, which had committed one turnover in the previous seven games, lost two fumbles, an interception and had a punt blocked.

McNeal committed his first two turnovers of the season in the loss with the interception and a fumble. He had been the only starting quarterback in Division I-A without an interception this season.

With regular season games left against the Sooners, Texas Tech and No. 6 Texas, things could easily get worse for A&M.

"We're not out coming in next week," Appel said. "So we can punt and feel sorry for ourselves or go back and keep working to get better."



# Auburn moves up in BCS standings

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
The Associated Press

Auburn moved into third place in the Bowl Championship Series on Monday while Southern California and Oklahoma held firmly to the top two spots.

The Tigers had been in fourth place in the first two BCS standings, but they took advantage of Miami's upset loss on Saturday to creep closer to the front-runners.

California moved up four spots to fourth, and is followed by Wisconsin and Utah.

Miami and Florida State, which was also upset on the road Saturday, fell out of the BCS top five for the first time this season.

The top two teams in the BCS standings after the regular season will meet in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 4.

USC, which has been in first place since the initial BCS standings three weeks ago, has a grade of 9.095. The Trojans are No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 and the ESPN/USA Today coaches poll. They are also tied with Oklahoma for the best computer ranking this week.

The Sooners, No. 2 in both polls all season, have a grade of .9648.

Auburn's grade is .9238, placing third in each poll and the computer rankings.

The AP media poll and coaches poll each count for one-third of a team's BCS grade. Total points received in the polls are taken into account. A compilation of six computer rankings make up the other third of a grade, with the highest and lowest computer rankings for each team thrown out.

There are six unbeaten teams in Division I-A — USC, Oklahoma, Auburn, Wisconsin, Utah and Boise State.

Auburn's BCS ranking is the highest in school history, but the Tigers may not have their national title hopes in their own hands.

Even if they finish the season unbeaten with a victory in the Southeastern Conference championship game, the Tigers might need a loss by either USC or Oklahoma to reach the Orange Bowl.

A difficult remaining schedule could work in Auburn's favor, if the Tigers can survive it. They're off this week before playing Georgia (ninth in the BCS) at home on Nov. 13, at Alabama on the No. 20, and the SEC title game against either Georgia or Tennessee (eighth in the BCS) on Dec. 4.



Utah quarterback Alex Smith drags San Diego State's Heath Farwell on Saturday. The No. 6 Utes are trying to earn a BCS bowl bid.

A separate strength of schedule component was removed from the BCS standings this season, but the computer rankings still take schedule strength into account, as do most poll voters.

Utah, from the Mountain West

Conference, could become the first team from a mid-major league to earn a bid to one of the four BCS games by finishing in the top six.

The Utes have a grade of .7429. Texas (.7370) is seventh.

# Fla. teams tumble in AP Top 25

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
The Associated Press

Miami and Florida State tumbled in The Associated Press poll on Sunday, falling out of the top 10 after being upset on the road.

The Hurricanes' first loss of the season, a 31-28 defeat at North Carolina, dropped them seven spots to No. 11 in the media poll. They were one of five ranked teams to lose on the road to unranked opponents Saturday.

The Seminoles lost 20-17 at Maryland to snap a six-game winning streak. They fell eight spots to No. 13.

Southern California is No. 1 and Oklahoma is No. 2 for the 10th straight poll. Texas-El Paso is No. 25 as coach Mike Price has the Miners in the rankings for the first time in their history.

USC received 56 first-place votes and 1,616 points after a 42-12 victory at Washington State. The Sooners got eight first-place votes, five less than last week, and 1,556 points after squeaking by Oklahoma State 38-35 Saturday.

The Sooners are back on the road next week at Texas A&M.

"It is another big game and an important game in the Big 12," Sooners coach Bob Stoops said.

Texas A&M was upset 35-34 in overtime to Baylor and fell six spots to No. 22.

No. 3 Auburn (8-0) received a first-place vote. California moved up three spots to No. 4, its highest ranking since 1952, and Wisconsin (8-0) is No. 5.

Rounding out the first 10 are Texas, Utah, Georgia, Tennessee and Michigan.

The top five teams in the ESPN/USA Today coaches poll are Auburn, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Auburn, Wisconsin and Georgia.

In the AP poll, No. 12 Virginia is right behind Miami and in front of Florida State.

No. 14 is Louisville, followed by West Virginia, unbeaten Boise State, LSU, Virginia Tech, Oklahoma State and Iowa.

Joining Texas A&M and UTEP in the final five are No. 21 Southern Mississippi, No. 23 Arizona State and No. 24 Boston College, which is making its season debut in the rankings.

Price's Miners (6-2) are in the midst of one of the best turnarounds of the season. They clinched just their second winning season in the last 16 years with a 38-10 win over San Jose State and matched their victory total for the three previous seasons combined.

Falling out of the rankings was Purdue, which lost its third straight game, 13-10 at Northwestern. The Boilermakers were No. 5 just three weeks ago.

Minnesota also dropped out after losing 30-21 at Indiana.

# As losses pile up, so do questions for Paterno

Maybe it's just a coincidence that the toughest stretch of Joe Paterno's career arrives as the hourglass is about to be about to turn over on his 78th year.

Or maybe not.

After just one losing season in his first 34 at Penn State, Paterno was guaranteed his fourth in the last five following a 21-10 beating Saturday at Ohio State.

During that run, the Nittany Lions have lost not just their teeth, but their aura. By now, it's fair to ask whether they're likely to regain either as long as Paterno remains in charge.

Last season, skeptics doubted his play-calling and clock-management skills, as well as whether

a coach who defined the term "old school" could maintain discipline on a squad filled out by the "me-first" generation. Despite a 3-9 finish, Penn State's administration gave him a four-year contract extension, hoping to soothe critics as well as recruits by making it clear that JoePa would be around for a while. Already the deal has had the opposite effect.

Paterno keeps saying, "We're not that far off," but there is nothing to substantiate that and no one who has the coach's ear seems inclined to pass the message along. It's increasingly apparent that Paterno might not secure enough to be competitive in the Big Ten, can win on the road and can no longer take anybody in the conference for granted.

On top of that, Paterno hasn't proven that he can compete with the league's "Big Two," Michigan and Ohio State, for tonight's recruits on a regular basis and even whether he can still develop the talent he does have.

Playing at home 10 days ago, Penn State

managed just two safeties in a 6-4 loss to Iowa, and one of those was a gift. In the Ohio State game, the Buckeyes ran a total of six plays and netted just 12 yards in the first quarter, but led 14-0. What tied those two latest losses together was the performance of quarterback Michael Robinson, who filled in for injured starter Zack Mills and closed out the Iowa game with two interceptions and a fumble on the final three plays, then began the Ohio State game by throwing two interceptions in his first three pass attempts.

The point is not to blame Robinson, who, after all, takes most of his snaps in practice as a wide receiver and running back, was coming back from a severe neck injury, and found himself playing behind the same porous offensive line that couldn't protect Mills from suffering a concussion in the Iowa game. The point is that Robinson probably shouldn't have been playing QB in the first place, a fact that Paterno is either too blind or stubborn to acknowledge.

A few weeks ago, even as the offensive problems continued to mount — Penn State averaged fewer than seven points per game in five losses under Miller — Paterno insisted that had Robinson been playing, the Nittany Lions would have beaten Wisconsin, Minnesota and Purdue.

Asked what evidence that was based on, the coach simply said, "I have coached great football players for 55 years. If I tell you that Michael Robinson is one of the best football players I have ever coached and one of the best in the country, don't question me."

And just last week, when the available evidence on Robinson suggested otherwise, and the Nittany Lions' sorry record practically begged for freshman Anthony Morelli to get his shot, Paterno insisted the youngster wasn't adequate to replace Mills to face Ohio State.

When a writer asked, "Why not?" Paterno replied, "He's not adequately prepared."

Asked whether Morelli knew the plays, Pa-



Ohio State coach Jim Tressell and Penn State coach Joe Paterno shake hands after Saturday's game.

terno said again, "He's not adequately prepared."

The troubling part, beyond Paterno's obstinacy, is that his son, Jay, happens to be Penn State's quarterbacks coach. The Nittany Lions have three games left against Northwestern, Indiana and Michigan State, and rather than worry about winning those, it would serve the program better to find out as soon as possible if Jay Paterno can make certain that Morelli is "adequately prepared" to face the future.

After all, it's one thing for JoePa, who practically built the program from scratch, won two national championships and personally donated \$4 million, to feel a sense of entitlement. It's quite another when his kid starts feeling the same way.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: jlitke@ap.org

Jim Litke



# Latest win makes Singh golf's first \$1 million man

BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

PALM HARBOR, Fla. — Vijay Singh scaled the mountain two months ago when he beat Tiger Woods in a final-round duel outside Boston to become No. 1 in the world.

## Golf roundup

Turns out that was only the start. In his most dominant performance of an incredible year, Singh birdied the first two holes and never let anyone get within two shots of him the rest of the day. He closed with a 6-under 65 to set the tournament record at the Chrysler Championship and win by five shots, the largest margin of his nine PGA Tour victories this year.

"The wins keep coming, and I'm enjoying every bit of it," Singh said.

He became only the sixth player with that many victories, joining a list of legends and one contemporary — Paul Runyan, Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan, Sam Snead and Woods. And he claimed one spot all for himself — the first \$1 million man in golf.

"I'm not one for stats, but I don't like to keep records," Singh said. "I just know it's been an incredible year for me. I haven't really sat down and thought about it, what I've done. I'll only enjoy it when the season is over."

Singh was introduced as a \$10 million man, sweet words for a guy who once made \$10 a lesson as the resident club pro in the rain forests of Borneo.

"That's a new one," Singh said. "It's a good one, though."

It was another great performance, his sixth victory in his last eight starts on the PGA Tour.

With a one-shot lead over Tommy Armour III, Singh got up-and-down for a birdie on the par-5 opening hole, then rolled in an 8-footer for birdie on No. 2. With his lead down to two shots, he was approaching the turn. Singh fired a sand wedge into 10 feet for a birdie on the ninth hole, then stuffed another one to 3 feet on the 10th.

He finished in style with a birdie from the fairway bunker on No. 18, putting him at 18-under 266. That broke by one the tournament record set by K.J. Choi in 2002.

Singh earned \$900,000, finishing five shots ahead of Armour (69) and Jesper Parnevik (68). Joe Durant had the best round Sunday with a 63 to finish fourth, one shot ahead of Kirk Triplett (70).

Armour was asked what was so impressive about the Fiji.

"He's inside of you on every hole," he said. "You're going to have to take it from him. He's not going to give it to you. That's what happened."

Armour unknowingly was in the giving mood.



Vijay Singh of Fiji won the Chrysler Championship on Sunday, becoming the sixth golfer to win nine PGA events in a season.

His three-putt from 30 feet — the par putt was only 3 feet — dropped him into a two-way tie for second. That was the difference of \$100,000, enough to allow Parnevik to finish No. 40 on the money list and qualify for the Masters.

The Chrysler Championship was the final full-field tournament of the year, the last chance for players to finish in the top 30 on the money list to qualify for the Tour

Championship; the top 40 to get into the Masters; the top 125 to secure tour cards for next year; and the top 150 to get a pass to final stage of Q school.

The other winners:

■ Kenny Perry shot 67 to move up two spots to No. 29 and go to East Lake next week.

■ Parnevik nudged out Joey Sindelar, who missed the cut, by \$13,254.

■ Tag Ridings made seven birdies on the last 10 holes for a 64 to finish No. 125.

■ Jeff Brehaut made a birdie putt on the last hole that moved him up two spots to No. 149.

Singh has \$10,725,166, more than \$5 million ahead of Phil Mickelson. The Tour Championship gives him a chance to make it a 10-1 season with his 10th victory.

Only Byron Nelson (18 wins in 1945), Ben Hogan (13 in 1946, 10 in 1948) and Sam Snead (11 in 1951) have won that often on the PGA Tour.

## Park roots in South Korea

JEJU, South Korea — Grace Park won the CJ Nine Bridges Classic, shooting a 7-under 65 for a five-stroke victory.

Park finished at 16-under 200. Top-ranked Annika Sorenstam and Carin Koch, both of Sweden, shot 67s and tied for second at 11-under. Sorenstam entered the day three strokes off the lead and closed only under an eagle.

# Diamondbacks select Backman as manager

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Wally Backman was hired Monday as manager of the Arizona Diamondbacks, taking over a team coming off one of the worst seasons in major league history.

A former New York Mets second baseman with a reputation for intensity in the dugout, Backman was selected minor league manager of the year this season by The Sporting News after leading Class A Lancaster to the best record in the California League. It was his first year in the Diamondbacks' organization.

Backman, 45, was given a two-year contract with two team options. He was chosen over former Seattle manager Bob Melvin and Montreal Expos third base coach Manny Acta.

Backman played 14 seasons in the major leagues, the first nine with the Mets. He had a 275 career average with 240 RBIs and 117 stolen bases.

He takes over a franchise that dropped to 51-111 record last season, the worst in the seven-year history of the Diamondbacks, who won the World Series title in 2001. The losses matched the 10th-most losses in major league history.

## Astros GM Hunsicker resigns

HOUSTON — Houston Astros General Manager Gerry Hunsicker resigned Monday, less than two weeks after the team came within one win of reaching the World Series for the first time.

"It has been an incredible nine years, and when I look back I will take with me a lifetime of memories," said Hunsicker, who had the job for nine years.

## Sports briefs

Tim Purpura, Hunsicker's assistant and the team's director of player development, will succeed him immediately.

"I have very large shoes to fill," said Purpura, who has been with the Astros for 11 years.

During Hunsicker's tenure, the Astros won four NL Central titles and finished second three times, including this past season.

Hunsicker, 53, said he will remain with the Astros as an adviser through next season.

## Ties Revolution in MLS conference finals

COLUMBUS, Ohio — New England goalkeeper Matt Reis saved two Columbus Crew penalty kicks, helping the Revolution advance to the MLS Eastern Conference finals with a 1-1 tie Sunday night.

Reis fouled Crew forward Kyle Martino inside the penalty area in the 24th minute but the blocker Ross Paul's attempt to convert the resulting penalty kick.

Columbus had a chance to take the lead with a second penalty kick in the 73rd minute, but midfielder Tony Sanneh's shot was corralled by Reis.

The Crew made a league-record 20 straight successful penalty kicks before Paul's final, ending a streak that began in 1999.

## Red Sox hero Schilling out stumping for Bush

WILMINGTON, Ohio — Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling

First lady Laura Bush, left, sits with Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling at a campaign rally in Ohio.

ing made a surprise appearance Monday morning with President Bush, limping to the stage to give Bush a strong endorsement.

Schilling won Game 2 of the World Series and Game 6 of the American League championship series with his ankle stitched to protect a torn sheath around a tendon.

The ace pitcher said Bush was a commander in chief who will ensure troops "have everything they need to get the job done, a leader who believes in their mission and honors their service, a leader who has the courage and the character to stay on the offense against terrorism until the war is won."

Bush stood next to him, and they embraced afterward.

## Bobcats dead Hunter to Magic

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte Bobcats traded forward Brandon Hunter to the Orlando Magic for a 2005 first-round pick.

Hunter was picked by the Bobcats in the expansion draft after playing his rookie season in Boston, averaging 3.5 points and 3.3 rebounds in 36 games.

# Duke looking up at Wake Forest, UNC

## Blue Devils rank fourth in ACC preseason poll

BY KEITH PARSONS

The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Wake Forest was picked to win the Atlantic Coast Conference regular season title, the first time in five years a team other than Duke had that honor.

Still, no one feels sorry for the Blue Devils, least of all coach Mike Krzyzewski.

"I don't think anybody's saying we're going to have down year, I think they're just picking some teams ahead of us," he said Sunday at ACC Operation Basketball. "We'll have a good team, we have good players. We just don't have as many of them."

Duke's first starters Chris Duhon and Luol Deng, and prized recruit Shaun Livingston decided to skip college altogether and head to the NBA. In the poll of 91 media members, the Blue Devils earned three first-place votes and were picked fourth, following the Demon Deacons, North Carolina and Georgia Tech.

North Carolina State rounded out the top five, just ahead of Maryland.

"It's a little different," Duke guard J.J. Redick said. "Even my freshman year, we had like six freshmen and one or two seniors, and we were picked first."

"It doesn't really say we're a bad team. The league is so deep."

That it is. Eleven of the 15 players named to all-conference teams last season return, and Wake Forest and North Carolina have their entire rosters back. Many preseason polls — including the coaches' — have six conference teams in the top 20.

"The ACC is special, it's unique," Virginia coach Pete Gillen said. "Last year, we had the one of the best years we ever had from top to bottom. And this year might be better. It's good to say it, but it's not good to play it."

Florida State was picked seventh, followed by the Cavaliers, Clemson and new members Virginia Tech and Miami.

Wake Forest pointed guard Chris Paul was selected preseason player of the year, narrowly edging Julius Hodge of N.C. State. They were joined on the all-ACC team by Redick and Rashad McCants and Sean May of North Carolina.

Last year, the Demon Deacons finished third in the conference, four games behind Duke. Now, at least three polls have ranked No. 1 in the country.

"To be honest with you, you see it, you look at it and you shake your head, but you can't waste one nanosecond to worry about it," coach Phil Prosser said. "It's a tough, tough league. I don't think you'll ever change a leaf of absence to have back surgery."

Since then, they have stayed in the top two, and Georgia Tech coach Paul Hewitt expects them to be a contender again.

"He hasn't won all those games for nothing," he said of Krzyzewski. "He's got some pretty talented players over here. I don't think they'll have any problems."

# A team victory

## Hendrick Motorsports returns to Victory Lane a week after team was rocked by a plane crash

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ga. — Jimmie Johnson pulled into Victory Lane, beneath three flags at half-staff. The pictures of 10 lost friends were splashed across the hood of the winning car, along with a gut-wrenching message: "Always In Our Hearts."

A day for celebrating. A day for remembering. A day for healing.

Just one week after 10 people — many of them key members of Hendrick Motorsports — were killed in a plane crash, Johnson did his part to ease some of the pain by winning at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Sunday.

Maybe the feeling lasted for only a few fleeting moments, but it sure was nice to smile again.

"Once I got in the car, I knew what I was supposed to do," Johnson said. "I honestly forgot about everything until I took the checkered flag."

*"Coming back to the race track, thinking of race cars, getting in the car was something that took my mind off what happened."*

**Jimmie Johnson**

Hendrick Motorsports driver

"Then everything went into slow motion."

Mark Martin's Ford dominated the Bus Pro Shops MBNA 500, but fate was on Johnson's side. He became the first driver in six years to win three straight races in a season, despite leading only 17 laps on the high-banked trioval.

Martin was out front for almost 70 percent of the laps — 227 out of 325 — only to be 0.293 seconds behind at the end. A couple of late yellow flags ruined his chances.

"The best car doesn't always win the race," Johnson said. "The No. 6 car, he was the best car. Circumstances at the end just didn't work out in their favor."

Neither Johnson nor Martin had to worry about seeing too many of their rivals in the rear-view mirror.

Seven of the 10 contenders for the Nextel Cup championship had major problems, including points leader Kurt Busch. He blew an engine on lap 52 and finished 42nd — beating only one other driver, little brother Kyle.

But there was enough misfortune to go around, ensuring that Kurt Busch remained on top of the standings.

Matt Kenseth, the defending Cup champion, blew an engine and was 41st. Elliott Sadler was 36th after a collision with a car in the pits ruined his steering. Jeff Gordon battled an ill-handling machine to 34th place.

Jeremy Mayfield cut a tire, scraped the wall and had to hustle thereafter just to get 26th. Pole sitter Ryan Newman was leading when a miscue in the pits doomed him to a finish of 17th, two laps down.

And, finally, Dale Earnhardt Jr. crashed out late in the race through his own carelessness. He was in position to seize the lead in the standings when he clipped Carl Edwards' car on the backstretch and slammed into the inside wall with just 15 laps to go. Junior's heavily damaged car couldn't finish, leaving him in 33rd for the second week in a row.

"I was just trying to win the race," Earnhardt said. "We could have gained a lot of points. That would have been nice."

Busch sensed that it wasn't going to be his day.

"I had a feeling in my stomach before the race," said Busch, who had not finished lower than sixth in the first six races of the Nextel Cup playoff. "It was just one of those gut feelings where you don't feel as confident as the week before."

Johnson jumped two places in



Jimmie Johnson, left, is embraced by Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon in Victory Lane after winning Sunday's NASCAR race at Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, Ga. Johnson won a week after 10 people, most of them affiliated with the Hendrick team, were killed in a plane crash en route to last Sunday's race at Martinsville, Va.

the standings to second — only 59 points behind Busch — and became the first driver with three straight victories in a season since teammate Gordon won four in a row on the way to the 1998 championship.

Johnson pulled his winning Chevrolet up to the flagstand, picking up the checkered banner. Then, with it flapping out the driver's side, he circled the 1.54-mile track going the wrong way, soaking up the cheers of everyone in

the crowd — even those wearing the colors of rival drivers such as Earnhardt.

"Typically, I would have been booed," Johnson said, managing a smile. "There's a lot of red up there. They don't like blue. That's cool. But all I could see today was people on the fence who were happy to see what took place."

When Johnson finally got to the winner's circle, he took a cell phone call from team owner Rick Hendrick, who'll be getting the checkered flag. Hendrick asked everyone on the team to wear their caps backward — a tribute to his late son's fashion sense.

"Rick always yelled at his son for wearing his hat backward," Johnson said, managing a smile.

Ricky Hendrick, who died in the crash, was being groomed to take over his father's team. Three other family members were killed, including John Hendrick, Rick's brother and the team president.

General manager Jeff Turner and chief engine builder Randy Dorton also died.

"Coming back to the race track, thinking of race cars, getting in the car was something that took my mind off what happened," said Johnson, who didn't learn of the crash until after his victory last Sunday at Martinsville. The plane slammed into a mountain while on its way to the race.

Johnson has salvaged his championship hopes, but he'll have plenty of competition over the final three races. Gordon, Martin and Earnhardt are all within 98 points of Busch, who only had one driver that close coming into Sunday.



Dale Earnhardt Jr. was in position to take the lead in the Nextel Cup title chase when he crashed with 15 laps to go Sunday, finishing 33rd.

Play the



WIN CASH!

Mondays in Stars and Stripes and on Oconus.com

## Spare Tire Carrier



This Tek can supply the accessories to allow you to modify a HMMWV equipped with or without an existing bumper to accept our Patented Mechanically Assisted Spare Tire Carrier (MASTC) and Jerry Can Holder (JCH). Both Systems rotate out of way of the back of the vehicle to access to the rear compartment :

- Spare Tire Carrier allows one person to easily change the tire
- Optional tool-storage box available.
- Bumper assembly kit allows those HMMWV's without bumpers to easily add MASTC & JCH
- Retains existing tie down hooks, electrical connector and trailer hitch
- Will not interfere with towing a trailer
- All parts are powder coated to prevent corrosion

Email us a picture of you with our product and we'll send you a FREE Ibis Tek T-Shirt

Call 800-677-4111  
or visit our website at [www.ibistek.com](http://www.ibistek.com)

**Ibis Tek** CSA# GS06741BIS  
[www.ibistek.com](http://www.ibistek.com)

**Chargers 42, Raiders 14**

and  
Diego 0 7 7 0—  
14 14 14 0—

**First Quarter**  
 —Peelle 17 pass from Brees (Kae-  
 ding kick), :11:14.  
 —Tomlinson 1 run (Kae-ling kick), :08:  
**Second Quarter**  
 —Wheatley 5 run (Janikowski kick),  
 :05:56.  
 —McCardell 13 pass from Brees (Kae-  
 ding kick), :45:36.  
 —Dwight 23 pass from Brees (Kae-  
 ding kick), :36:36.  
**Third Quarter**  
 —Gates 5 pass from Brees (Kae-  
 ding kick), :12:05.  
 —Gates 1 pass from Brees (Kae-  
 ding kick), :3:08.  
 —Jolley 13 pass from Collins (Janikows-  
 ki kick), :02:27.  
**Fourth Quarter**  
 —NA.  
**Final Score**  
 Oakland 20, San Diego 13.

Downs	15	
Net Yards	281	4
pos-yards	11-22	38.1

ng	259	273
g Returns	1-18	4-62
ff Returns	5-94	2-71
g Returns Ret.	0-0	2-17
-Att-Int	24-39-2	22-5-0
ed-Yards Lost	1-4	1-8
ies-Long	5-50-4	3-48-7
ies-Yards	1-1	1-1
ies-Yards	10-75	7-46
of Possession	24-30	35-30

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**Running Backs**—Oakland, Zereoue 6-(minus) 1, 1-10; Anderson 1-0, 3-10; San Diego, Tomlinson 19-71, Chatman 12-69, Banks 2-21, Neal 2-10; Dallas, Brown 1-0, 1-10; Houston, Brown 22-25-281.

**Receiving**—Oakland, Collins 24-39-2-263, San Diego, Brown 22-25-281.

**Quarterbacks**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Wide Receivers**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Tight Ends**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Linebackers**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Defensive Backs**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Kickers**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Punters**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

**Special Teams**—Oakland, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Houston, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; Dallas, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10; San Diego, Zereoue 4-52, Porter 2-10.

Diego, Parker 6-91, Gates 5-63, M  
ell 4-55, Peele 3-28, Neal 2-14, Dwig  
Tomlinson 1-7

**Steelers 34, Patriots 20**

England	3	7	3	7-20
Dorough	21	3	10	0-34

**First Quarter**

—FG Vinatieri 41, 11:39.  
—Burress 7 pass from Roethlisberger (kick), 3:46.  
—Burress 4 pass from Roethlisberger (kick), :29.  
—Townsend 39 interception return, :13.

**Second Quarter**

—FG Reed 19, 2:06.  
—Givens 2 pass from Brady (Vinatieri kick), :42.

**Third Quarter**

—Bettis 2 run (Reed kick), 13:06.  
—FG Vinatieri 25, 10:41.

**Fourth Quarter**  
Clubs 33 pass from Brady (Miami)

	NE	PH
downs	19	25
es-yards	248	417
es-yards	6-5	49-221
ng	243	196
Returns	3-15	2-30
et Returns	6-138	5-136
ceptions Ret.	0-0	2-39
-Att-Int	25-43-2	18-24-0
ed-Yards Lost	4-28	0-0
	3-52.3	4-44.3
ies-Lost	2-2	1-0
ities-Yards	6-55	9-90
of Possession	17-02	42-58

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

**Running** New England, Faulk 5-4, Cobbs 5-5  
**Pittsburgh**, Statia 25-125, Bettis 15-65,  
 es 3-17, Ward 1-11, Roethlisberger 5-5.

Bourgh, Roethlisberger 18-24-0-196.

**Bears 23, 49ers 13**

San Francisco	10	3	0	0—13
Pittsburgh	7	6	0	10—23

**First Quarter**

—Berrian 49 pass from Krenzler (Ferguson kick), 13:01.  
—Ferguson 20 'umble return (T.Peterson kick), 5:26.

**Second Quarter**

—FG Edinger set, 11:27.  
—FG T.Peterson 51, FG Edinger 43, FG Edinger 45, 4:35.

**Fourth Quarter**

—Vasher 71 interception return

	SF	Chi
downs	10	14
Net Yards	162	234
es-yards	23-62	125-20
ing	100	134
Returns	3-20	6-84
If Returns	1-135	4-179
Captions Ret.	6-134	1-151
ed-Yards Lost	16-36-1	13-25-1
ies-Lost	3-22	5-34
ies-Lost	8-40-8	6-37-0
of Possession	2-1	8-58
	5-20	3-25
	26-55	32-02

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

**Shining-San Francisco.** Barlow 18-56,  
 1-1, Beasley 3-1, Chicago Thomas  
 Krenzel 4-9, Bertall 1-7, Wade 2-5,  
 1-1.

Chicago, Krenzel 13-25-1-168.

**Assisted field goals**—San Francisco, T.Peter-  
0 (SH). Chicago, Edinger 53 (SH).



# Seahawks hold on to end skid

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Shaun Alexander certainly did his part to put the Seattle Seahawks back on track.

Alexander gained 195 yards rushing on 32 carries and Matt Hasselbeck recovered from a dismal performance last weekend, throwing for 201 yards to lead the Seahawks to a 23-17 win over the Carolina Panthers on Sunday.

The Seahawks (4-3) broke a three-game losing streak, while the Panthers (1-6) lost their first straight game.

Josh Brown kicked three field goals in the second half, connecting from 27, 45 and 22 yards to give the Seahawks a comfortable cushion. His final kick put Seattle up 23-10 with 5:42 remaining.

This win wasn't spectacular. The Seahawks didn't have a zig-zag punt return for a touchdown, nor a chest-thumping helmet-spinning play by a defender. But the substance was there in little ways that were missing during Seattle's skid.

Hasselbeck threw to tight end Itula Mili for a 17-yard gain on third-and-14 in the fourth quarter, and Alexander broke a 38-yard run in the second period and a 44-yarder in the fourth — showing the Seahawks made the plays they needed.

It was just as notable for what didn't happen. There was no fourth-quarter meltdown like the Seahawks had in a loss to St. Louis three weeks ago. And no comic inefficiency on offense like in last week's stunning loss at Arizona.

Carolina was driving for a possible late score, but any chance of a rally was dimmed when Jake Delhomme threw an interception straight to Seattle's Marcus Truitt, who returned it 57 yards.

**Texans 20, Jaguars 6:** At Houston, the Texans (4-3) won for the fourth time in their past five games and are above .500 for the first time in franchise history this late in a season.

Demarcus Figgins returned Byron Leftwich's errant pass 43 yards for a score with 42 seconds left. David Carr went 26-for-34 for 276 yards and a touchdown and the Texans held Jacksonville (5-3) to 39 yards rushing.

Jaguars running back Fred Taylor left in the third quarter with a hip pointer.

**Packers 28, Redskins 14:** At Landover, Md., Brett Favre ig-



Redskins running back Clinton Portis heads for what appeared to be a go-ahead TD, but the play was called back because of a penalty.

nored a sprained throwing hand to complete 20 of 33 passes for 289 yards and a touchdown for Green Bay (4-4), extending his streak to 33 games with at least one TD pass in his 199th consecutive regular-season game.

The Packers won their third straight game.

The Redskins (2-5), trailing 20-14, thought they scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 43-yard reception by Clinton Portis with 2:35 to play. But the celebrations died quickly when the play was called back for an illegal-motion penalty on receiver James Thomas.

On the next play, Al Harris intercepted Mark Brunell's pass and Ahmad Green scored on an 11-yard run four plays later to seal the victory.

**Cowboys 31, Lions 21:** The passing and running of 40-year-old QB Vinny Testaverde keyed Dallas' victory at home. He had a 7-yard run on fourth-and-3 to set up a tying touchdown, then scrambled 3 yards for the go-ahead score to help the Cowboys (3-4) end a three-game losing streak.

Keyshawn Johnson, the only receiver in the lineup who'd ever caught a pass, had two TD receptions.

Joey Harrington was 19-for-32 for 255 yards with two touchdowns and an interception for Detroit (4-3).

**Titans 27, Bengals 20:** Billy Volek replaced injured Steve McNair (chest) by throwing for two touchdowns and 210 yards for the Titans' first victory at home this season.

Gary Anderson kicked two

field goals, and Chris Brown ran for 147 yards, his best 100-yard performance this season.

The Titans (3-5) earned their ninth victory in 10 games against the old AFC Central foe Cincinnati (2-5), sacking Carson Palmer four times, batting down four passes behind the line and forcing him into an interception and a fumble.

**Bills 38, Cardinals 14:** At Orchard Park, N.Y., Willis McGahee ran for 102 yards and two touchdowns. In two starts this season, McGahee has rushed for more than 100 yards and led the Bills (2-5) to both of their victories.

The Cardinals (2-5) have lost 17 straight on the road, the worst current streak in the NFL, dating to a win at Carolina on Oct. 6, 2002.

**Bears 23, 49ers 13:** Nathan Vasher's stumbling interception and 71-yard return clinched Chicago's home victory.

Anthony Thomas replaced the injured Thomas Jones and ran for 93 yards on 25 carries for Chicago (2-5).

The Bears prevailed behind Dorsey's interception of Ken Dorsey's throw and three field goals by Paul Edinger.

Chicago rookie Craig Krenzel made his first NFL start and Dorsey got the nod for the third time this season when 49ers starter Tim Rattay was a no-go because of an injury to his right forearm.

Krenzel and Dorsey had squared off in the national title game following the 2002 season when Krenzel led Ohio State past Dorsey and Miami in the Fiesta Bowl.

# Brees nearly perfect in Chargers' rout

By BERNIE WILSON

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — In any other blowout, Philip Rivers might have gotten the chance to make his NFL debut. Not in this one. Even the rookie knew that Drew Brees deserved to finish the game he started.

Brees was practically perfect Sunday, throwing a career-high five touchdown passes and setting team records for passing efficiency in leading the surprising San Diego Chargers to a 42-14 rout of the sad-sack Oakland Raiders.

"It was fun," said Brees, who continued his remarkable turnaround from last year's nightmare. "It felt like we could run anything in our base offense, and we knew it was going to work. We had that confidence."

Brees completed his first eight passes to quiet the thousands of Raiders fans in the stadium, and finished 22-for-25 for 281 yards and no interceptions. He set team records with his 88-percent completion rate and 153.1 passer rating. The highest rating a quarterback can have is 158.3.

"Drew's on fire," star running back LaDainian Tomlinson said.

If Brees had played like this last year, the Chargers wouldn't have needed to spend a No. 1 pick and \$40 million on Rivers.

Brees is doing his best to keep Rivers on the sidelines. And because this is the last year of his contract, he could present the front office with a dilemma if he keeps playing well.

Coach Marty Schottenheimer

planned to take Brees out in the final minutes, but said Rivers told him: "Coach, the way he is playing, let him finish."

The Chargers made Brees the scapegoat of an NFL-worst 4-12 season in 2003, a move that backfired when Brees, obtained in a draft-day deal with the New York Giants for Eli Manning and a handful of picks, missed the first month of training camp in a contract holdout, allowing Brees to keep his job.

Brees said his motivation is to keep winning games and a championship, not to prove people wrong.

"I play for this team," he said. "Obviously I love the game and I feel we have something special. I want more than anything for it to keep going."

The Chargers are 5-3 at the season's midpoint and tied for the AFC West lead with Denver, which lost to Atlanta.

Brees has 14 touchdown passes against just three interceptions this year, compared to his 15 interceptions and 11 TDs last year.

His previous best for touchdown passes in a game was three, which he did three times.

He hit tight end Antonio Gates with scoring passes of 5 yards and 1 yard on consecutive drives in the third quarter to give the Chargers a 42-7 lead. The second scoring pass to Gates came on fourth down, and the former Kent State basketball star slipped the ball through the uprights.

"We all trust Drew," Gates said. "Right now, he's the captain of the ship. He's making this offense click."

# Curtains: Steelers cash in on Patriots' turnovers

CURTAINS, FROM BACK PAGE

Rather than Roethlisberger, it was the Patriots' Tom Brady who looked like the rookie, throwing two interceptions and losing a fumble in New England's first loss since a 20-17 defeat to Washington on Sept. 28, 2003.

"It's not weird at all to lose, we knew it was a possibility every week," linebacker Tedy Bruschi said. "That's why we played so hard and prepared so hard every week. But a couple of things happened, a couple of mistakes ... and they were rolling."

Everything looked status quo early for the Patriots, who overcame Dillon's absence following two consecutive 100-yard games to drive to Adam Vinatieri's 43-yard field goal, the 15th straight game they've scored first.

After that, it fell apart. Roethlisberger hit Ward for 21 yards ahead of a perfectly thrown 47-yard scoring pass to a stretched-out Burress, who quickly shed backed Randall Gay two plays after he came in for the injured Law.

He [Gay] was a lame duck out there, so we just went right at him," Burress said.

It never got any better for the Patriots, playing like they were the first time since upsetting Pittsburgh 24-17 in the AFC championship game in January 2002.

On New England's next play, Brady fumbled after a hard hit by Joey Porter, leading to Roethlisberger's 4-yard pass to Burress and a 14-3 lead.

Just 16 seconds later, Brady, hit by Larry Foote and Kimmo Oelhofen, threw the ball directly to Deshaun Townsend for a 39-yard interception return for a touchdown, and it was 21-3 almost before New England fans had put down their signs from Saturday's Red Sox victory parade.

"It was pretty obvious the Steelers were the better team," Belichick said. "They outcoached us, outplayed us, and we weren't good in any phase of the game. We didn't do much of anything right."

Duce Staley supported Roethlisberger by running for 125 yards in his fourth 100-yard game of the season, two more than the Steelers (6-10) had all last season.

**Better Computers.  
Better Financing.  
Better Service.**

No Credit?

Bad Credit?

No Problem!

800HighTech.com

# Owens leaves calling card for Lewis & Co.

## Flamboyant wide receiver mocks linebacker after TD catch that clinched Eagles' victory

BY DAN GELSTON

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Terrell Owens' imitation wasn't really the sincerest form of flattery for Ray Lewis.

Owens mocked Lewis with some nifty footwork after catching an 11-yard touchdown pass in the undefeated Philadelphia Eagles' 15-10 victory over Baltimore on Sunday.

Owens, who angered Lewis and other Ravens when he spurned Baltimore and forced a trade to the Eagles in March, had eight catches for 101 yards. After breaking several tackles to score in the fourth quarter, Owens, known for his innovative celebrations, imitated the dance Lewis does when he's introduced before home games.

Owens said he studied tapes of the Baltimore linebacker doing his little dance from the Super Bowl.

"It was all fun. That's what I do," Owens said. "When I go out there and make a play, if I score, everyone knows I'm going to try to do something exciting."

"A lot of people don't like it."

Count Lewis among them.

"Don't be a coward and wait until you make one play to do something," Lewis said.

Lewis and Owens have exchanged verbal shots since the four-time Pro Bowl receiver refused to play for the Ravens after San Francisco initially traded him to Baltimore.

"I'm going to have fun with it," Owens said. "I'm pretty sure he'll get me somewhere down the road."

The dance was fun for Philadelphia, but didn't overshadow the big picture: With New England's loss to Pittsburgh, the Eagles are 7-0 for the first time in franchise history and are the lone undefeated team in the NFL.

"I'm just proud to be a part of it," Owens said.

The Ravens' offense, missing three Pro Bowl players, sure could have used Owens. The unit didn't score until Kyle Boller threw a 7-yard TD pass to Daniel Wilcox in the fourth quarter.

Baltimore (4-3) drove to Philadelphia's 48 in the final 2 minutes, but Boller's fourth-down pass was incomplete.

"We had a chance and that's the best part about it," Boller said.

Philadelphia's Donovan McNabb completed 18 of 33 passes for 219 yards and a touchdown, and also scrambled for 36 yards, setting up two field goals with his runs. David Akers converted kicks of 20, 41 and 43.

Leading 9-3, the Eagles got the ball at their 35 after Chester Taylor fumbled in the fourth quarter. Then, McNabb and Owens took over.

The two connected on passes of 15 and 11 yards, before hooking up for the score that made it 15-3.

Owens' celebration got more attention than his play.

Ravens safety Corey Fuller said he told Owens after the game that he was too good a player to let his TD antics overshadow his ability. Fuller said Owens had no response.

"How much more attention does he need to get?" Fuller said.

"He's got \$40 million. He's the number one guy here. How much more attention does he need? But it's easy to look good when you win."

Not all the Ravens were upset with Owens.

The always flashy Deion Sanders had a few words of advice for players — including his own teammates — who protest the



Philadelphia's Terrell Owens (81) slips past Baltimore safety Ed Reed, right, on his way to a 11-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter of Sunday's 15-10 victory over the Ravens. AP

post-TD celebrations. Don't let Owens score.

"I'm hasn't done anything different than he did in San Francisco last year," Sanders said. "He's winning. He's a great player. Now you guys are really getting to see the best in him because he's winning. He's on a national stage and he's associated with a winner."

The Eagles know plenty about winning

this year, even when the offense isn't clicking. They settled for three field goals from Akers before Owens' score in the fourth quarter.

Eagles coach Andy Reid said his team was only getting started.

"It's a nice compliment to the guys and they've done a nice job, but we're not going to get hung up on all that," he said. "We're going to keep pushing."

# Giants' offense steals spotlight

BY DAVE CAMPBELL

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Will Allen and his New York Giants teammates were tired of hearing about the prolific Minnesota Vikings and Daunte Culpepper.

So they did something about it. The Giants intercepted two passes and shut out the vaunted Minnesota offense for nearly 51 minutes in a 34-13 victory on Sunday.

"Yeah, they've got a good offense, but we've got a good defense," said Allen, who had one of New York's interceptions.

Culpepper was 24-for-42 for 231 yards and one late touchdown, his 29th of the season. "After hearing all week about his numbers this and his numbers that," Allen said, "we wanted to put a number on their team."

That's what the Giants did. 21 away seem to do to the Vikings.

After the game, Minnesota coach Mike Tice walked into the

interview room and announced the only good news of the afternoon: "The Giants are not on our schedule next year. Thank God."

Since a 41-0 loss in the NFC championship game in the 2000 season, the Vikings (5-2) haven't had much luck against New York. This was their third straight loss to the Giants — all at home.

In 2002, Culpepper was benched for the fourth quarter after going 9-for-20 for 91 yards against New York. Minnesota began last year with six victories before losing 29-17 to the Giants, beginning a downward spiral that included seven losses in the final 10 games.

"For some reason, we just have great performances here," said Giants tailback Tiki Barber, who ran 24 times for 101 yards and two short touchdowns.

Jeremy Shockey caught three passes for 60 yards. Kurt Warner went 13-for-21 for 144 yards and New York finally solved its red-zone struggles by scoring all

five times it reached the Minnesota 20 — including four TDs. Backup Mike Cloud scored twice on short runs in the second half.

"We rebounded in the right way," said Barber, whose team surpassed last year's victory total a week after losing 28-13 to Detroit.

Minnesota star Randy Moss was in street clothes after half-time, going without a catch for the second straight game while a strained right hamstring kept him from running at full speed. Moss didn't aggravate the injury, but felt some tightness and the Vikings didn't want to risk it.

"We've got to find a new personality until Randy's healthy," Tice said.

Without him, the Vikings had their worst offensive performance of the season.

"Everything that could've went bad for us did," said Culpepper, whose 32 yards led Minnesota rushers.

Lance Johnstone had two of

Minnesota's five sacks, but the Vikings were down as the scoreless possessions added up. Rookie Mewelde Moore, who had 610 offensive yards in the last three games, was able to 29 yards on eight carries.

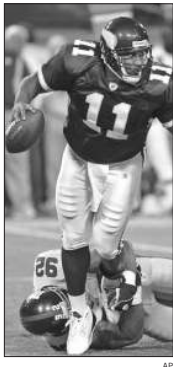
"I think we're a little spoiled," left tackle Bryant McKinnie said, "because we're used to putting up a lot of points."

Many of the Giants credited defensive coordinator Tim Lewis for their success. They were always in the right place, and — if Culpepper did complete a pass — the receiver was often hit hard.

"We practiced well, and the guys seemed confident we could come out here and win," defensive end Michael Strahan said.

Warner, and the rest of the New York offense, sure appreciated it.

"Here's a tremendous offense ... playing as well as anybody in the league, and the defense shut them down," Warner said. "It's very easy could've been a shut-out."



Minnesota's Daunte Culpepper is harassed by New York Giants Michael Strahan during Sunday's game. AP

# Chiefs' dynamic offense knocks Colts flat

## Kansas City runs over Indianapolis 45-35 despite Manning's 5 TD passes

BY STEVE BREISENDE

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Kansas City quarterback Trent Green was careful not to get too excited about another strong performance.

"We are on a little bit of a roll, I'll admit that," said Green, still smarting from the Chiefs' 0-3 start. "Just a little bit."

Green certainly had it going in the right direction Sunday, throwing for 398 yards and three touchdowns in a 45-35 victory over Indianapolis. The Chiefs improved to 3-4 and have scored 101 points in their first consecutive victories of the season.

The Chiefs broke a seven-game losing streak against the Colts (4-3), who had beaten them five straight times at Arrowhead Stadium. They also handed Indianapolis its second consecutive loss, despite Peyton Manning's five touchdowns passes.

"We know we've won here before," Chiefs linebacker David Thornton said. "We know we can do it again — and to not play as well as we should was very disappointing."

It could have been worse for Indianapolis' defense. The Chiefs might have broken 50 for the second straight week, but Kansas City's Priest Holmes lost a fumble at the Indianapolis 5



KANSAS CITY STAR/STAFF

**Colts punter Hunter Smith is tackled by the Chiefs' Eric Warfield during a fake punt in the first quarter in Kansas City, Mo., on Sunday. The two teams combined for 1,095 yards in the 45-35 Chiefs victory.**

and holder Steve Cheek dropped a snap on a field-goal attempt.

As it was, the Chiefs still outgained the Colts 590 yards to 505, the third-highest single-game yardage total in NFL history.

Holmes ran for 143 yards and three touchdowns — he has seven in two weeks — and tight end Tony Gonzalez had eight catches for 125 yards and two TDs.

That followed a 56-10 victory

over Atlanta last week in which Kansas City set an NFL record with eight rushing touchdowns.

"I'd like to believe this is who we are," Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil said. "Are we going to do it every week? No."

Sunday's game also provided a measure of vindication for a Kansas City defense that didn't force a punt in a 38-31 AFC divisional playoff loss to the Colts in January.

The Chiefs stuffed a fake punt attempt on Indianapolis' first drive and came up with a decisive takeaway when Greg Wesley intercepted Manning's poorly thrown pass in the end zone with just under 2 minutes left and returned it 65 yards to seal the win.

"We didn't want it to have to happen that way," Wesley said.

"But they've got a powerful offense. We knew that coming in.

We knew it wasn't going to be easy — but the only thing that matters is that 'W.'"

The Colts took a 7-0 lead on Manning's 52-yard pass to Marvin Harrison, but the Chiefs answered with Green's 21-yard scoring pass to Gonzalez later in the first quarter and a 7-yard TD throw to Johnnie Morton early in the second.

Holmes ran 21 yards on a draw play for a 21-7 lead, but Manning's 5-yard pass to Marcus Pollard made it 21-14 before the Chiefs closed the half with Holmes' 11-yard run and Lawrence Tynes' 32-yard field goal to go up 31-14.

Manning pulled the Colts to 31-28 by the end of the third on TD passes of 22 yards to Harrison and 41 yards to Reggie Wayne, but Holmes scored from inches out with just under 13 minutes left for a 38-28 lead.

Manning's 6-yard TD pass to Wayne on fourth down got Indianapolis to 38-35 with just under 5½ minutes left, but Green was 18-5 on the Chiefs' ensuing drive, capping it with a 14-yard TD pass to Gonzalez for a 45-35 lead.

Green also completed 14 straight passes in the first half, one short of Lawson's team record from 1967.

"That's the best he's played all year," Gonzalez said.

# Mile-High air revives Vick, Falcons' defense

BY EDDIE PELLIS

The Associated Press

DENVER — While Jake Plummer was setting records in the fourth quarter, Michael Vick was standing on the sideline savoring a surprisingly easy victory.

Vick accounted for 367 yards of offense Sunday to help the Atlanta Falcons to a 41-28 victory over the Denver Broncos, who got 499 yards passing from Plummer — much of it compiled in his vain attempt to play catch-up.

"I don't care what the numbers are," Plummer said. "We lost the game."

The 499 yards were Plummer's career high, the best mark in the NFL this season and a franchise record. Rod Smith had a career-high 208 yards receiving and an 80-yard touchdown, one of four Plummer threw. The Broncos also set a franchise record with 567 yards of offense.

But none of it was nearly enough to overcome Plummer's three interceptions and the stellar performance from Vick.

"He's something very special and I've never seen him play like that," Denver defensive lineman Luther Ellis said. "That's definitely the best game of the year, and maybe his career."

Vick threw two touchdown passes to Peerce Lewis and had 252 yards passing and 115 rushing — both season highs.

On almost every level, it was quite a contrast from last week for the Falcons (6-2), who gave up an NFL-record eight rushing touchdowns in a 56-10 loss in Kansas City.

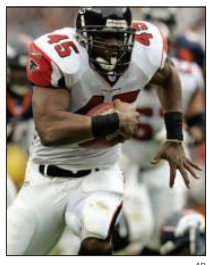
"This week we had the mind-set that we were going to stay focused and learn from the film and put it behind us," linebacker Keith Brooking said. "We did that today. We fought back and won convincingly, and that just shows the heart we have on this club."

The Broncos (5-3), meanwhile, have more questions to answer after being upset for the second straight week. Last Monday night, it was a 23-10 loss at Cincinnati. And then, this.

"It's very demoralizing for a team," said tailback Reuben Droughns, who was held to 49 yards rushing. "Any time you have back-to-back losses, it's very embarrassing."

At least they don't have any more games against Vick, who got things going early by turning what looked like a sure loss into a 44-yard run down the middle of the field, a play that "kind of set the tempo," Broncos cornerback Kelly Herndon said.

Atlanta gained 467 yards against a defense allowing less than 240 a game. Vick, who went 18-for-24 for a passer rating of 136.1, led the Falcons to scores on six of their first nine possessions, the stat would have been better if not for a missed field goal and a lost fumble in Denver territory.



Atlanta's T.J. Duckett breaks into the open on a 21-yard touchdown run against the Denver Broncos on Sunday.

## Sunday's NFL stars:

### Quarterbacks

■ Peyton Manning, Colts, passed for 472 yards and five touchdowns, the fifth five-TD performance of his career, in a 45-35 loss to Kansas City. Trent Green, Chiefs, threw for 398 yards and three scores.

■ Drew Brees, Chargers, threw a career-high five touchdown passes and set the team single-game record for pass efficiency by going 22-for-25. 88 percent, for 285 yards in a 42-14 romp over Oakland.

■ Ben Roethlisberger, Steelers, upset his personal winning streak to 18 with a 34-20 victory over New England. He won his final 13 at Miami of Ohio last season following an opening-game loss, and now is only the second rookie quarterback since the 1970 merger to win his first NFL five starts. He was 18-for-24 for 196 yards and no interceptions and is 39-49 in his last two games.

■ Michael Vick, Falcons, threw two touchdown passes to Peerce Lewis and accounted for 367 yards of offense in a



AP photos

41-28 win at Denver. Vick finished with season high 412 yards rushing and 252 passing, going 18-for-24.

■ Jake Plummer, Broncos, threw for a Denver record 499 yards, a career high and the best mark in the league this year. But he also had three interceptions. He went 31-for-55 with four touchdown passes in the loss to Atlanta.

### Receivers

■ Terrell Owens, Eagles, had eight catches for 101 yards and the winning touchdown in a 17-16 victory over the Redskins. After three several tackles to score in the fourth quarter, Owens, known for his innovative celebrations, imitated the dance Baltimore's Ray Lewis does after touchdowns.

■ Rod Smith, Broncos, had nine receptions for 208 yards and an 80-yard TD in a 41-28 loss to Atlanta.

■ Reggie Miller and Marvin Harrison, Colts, each had 119 yards and two touchdowns in a 45-35 loss at Kansas City. Chiefs TE Tony Gonzalez had eight catches for 125 yards and two TDs.

■ Munsif Muhammad, Panthers, had eight catches for 106 yards and two touchdowns in a

23-17 loss at Seattle.

■ Tim Lincecum, Patriots, made eight catches for 101 yards and two touchdowns in a 34-30 loss at Pittsburgh.

### Running Backs

■ Chris Brown, Browns, had 147 yards, his fifth 100-yard performance this season, and a touchdown in a 24-17 win over Cincinnati. ■ Tiki Barber, Giants, the league leader in yards, had 108 yards and two touchdowns in a 34-13 win over the Redskins.

■ Willis McGahee, Bills, ran for 102 yards and a score in a 27-20 win over the Patriots. McGahee has now scored in two of his last three games, the first two in both of their victories. McGahee's two scores were 18- and 22-yard touchdowns. The Bills' rushing led to 103 yards for Buffalo.

■ Reggie Bush, Saints, had 100 yards and a touchdown to finish with 143 yards rushing and 100 yards receiving in a 45-35 win over Indianapolis.

■ Reggie Alexander, Ravens, gained 195 yards on 32 carries and scored two TDs in a 23-17 win over Carolina.

## SPORTS



Auburn moves up, but USC, Oklahoma still entrenched atop rankings, Page 25

# It's Steel Curtains for Patriots' streak

## Roethlisberger ends New England's run at 21

BY ALAN ROBINSON

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The New England Patriots are no longer perfect, all because of a rookie quarterback who still is.

Ben Roethlisberger, who doesn't know what it's like to lose an NFL game, drove the Steelers to four scores after uncharacteristic New England turnovers and Pittsburgh ended the Patriots' two long winning streaks with a remarkably easy 34-20 victory Sunday.

The Patriots (6-1) had won 21 straight counting the playoffs and a league-record 18 in a row in the regular season, but were all but out of this one after Roethlisberger threw two touchdown passes to Plaxico Burress during a 21-point Steelers first quarter.

Maybe all this winning was too much to ask of Boston-area teams.

With running back Corey Dillon (thigh) sitting out and Pro Bowl cornerback Ty Law (foot) sidelined for all but a few plays, the Patriots' record run ended only four days after the Boston Red Sox won their first World Series in 86 years.

"It was never about the streak, that was never part of our preparation," linebacker Mike Vrabel said. "It wasn't this week against the Steelers, either — we just didn't play well enough to win, that's it."

As this was supposed to be the game that exposed Roethlisberger as a rookie — taking on New England's defensive maelstrom, coach Bill Belichick, and the Patriots' unpredictable defenses. Instead, Roethlisberger ran his own winning streak to 18 — his last 13 games at Miami of Ohio and his



Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Plaxico Burress celebrates a touchdown against the New England Patriots in the first quarter on Sunday.

first five in the NFL.

"I heard those experts talking on TV that he can't beat a Bill Belichick defense," Burress said. "But they're finding out around the league."

Only former Steelers quarterback Mike Kruczek's 6-0 start while subbing for the injured Terry Bradshaw in 1976 is longer

than Roethlisberger's since the 1970 NFL merger. But Kruczek never threw a TD pass in 10 games that season.

Roethlisberger already has nine scoring passes in what is fast becoming the best season by an NFL rookie QB since Dan Marino threw 20 touchdown passes and only six interceptions in 11 games

for the 1983 Dolphins.

"It's only been five games," Roethlisberger said. "We keep saying it over and over again, let's not get too excited."

His teammates certainly are excited, with the Steelers (6-1) off to their best start since their 1978 team was 7-0. Roethlisberger was 18-for-24 for 196 yards and no in-

terceptions Sunday and is 39-for-49 in his past two games.

"You can't describe his effort," wide receiver Hines Ward said. "He's 5-0, and he's earning a lot of respect on this team. The guys on this team are fighting hard for him."

SEE CURTAINS ON PAGE 29



**Vick's woes disappear in Denver's thin air; Owens scores winning TD to keep Eagles unbeaten**

Pages 30-31



**Johnson earns Hendrick team an emotional win in Atlanta**

Page 27



**Singh tops \$10M in earnings with ninth victory of season** Page 26